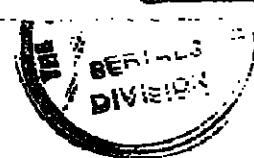
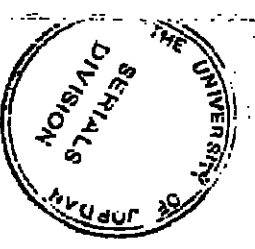


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## Kuwait lauds global detente

### UN effort for Gulf backed

UNITED NATIONS, Oct 13, (Kuna): Kuwait has hailed the 1988 ceasefire agreement between Iraq and Iran as "the most remarkable achievement of the UN in maintaining international peace and security."

In a speech before the General Assembly, Kuwaiti Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed nonetheless deplored that negotiations under Security Council Resolution 598, adopted unanimously July 20, 1987, have not led to the desired conclusion, namely a comprehensive peace agreement.

Therefore, he said, Kuwait continues to support the efforts of Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar and his assistants to implement the resolution fully.

The subject also came up Wednesday during meetings between Sheikh Sabah and the secretary general and later with Jan Eliasson of Sweden, the secretary-general's special representative on Iraq and Iran.

## End conflict: Saud AL's effort extolled

UNITED NATIONS, Oct 13, (Kuna): Saudi Foreign Minister Saud Al Faisal on Wednesday hailed the Arab League's achievements in promoting a solution to the Lebanese issue and stressed the necessity for the Lebanese factions to intensify their efforts to secure a settlement.

The foreign minister's message was read out before the General Assembly by Saudi permanent representative Samir S. Shihabi.

"The king extolled all the Lebanese parties, and other sides concerned with the Lebanese issue to intensify their endeavours to secure the beneficial objectives which all seek in this direction," Prince Saud said.

He recalled the decision by the recent Casablanca summit conference to establish the Arab high tripartite committee composed of Saudi Arabia, Morocco and Algeria which has put forward a draft plan for national reconciliation.

The committee's efforts, he said, have led to the ceasefire and the convening of a meeting of the Lebanese parliamentarians in Taif.

"For 12 days they are, and have been exerting continuous efforts to reach an agreement that will give the country its peace, to the state its constitutional institutions, conduct political reforms and establish the sovereignty of the Lebanese state over all the Lebanese territory," he said.

Prince Saud emphasized the need for the Lebanese parties to reach a unified vision that enables them to define the future of the country according to the formula which they perceive will preserve the unity of Lebanon, land and people, and ensure continuous peace and total stability.

He called for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from South Lebanon in conformity with the armistice agreements of 1949 and Security Council Resolution 425.

## Italian link in Bofors alleged

NEW DELHI, Oct 13, (AP): The government denied today that it tried to block inquiries into alleged payoffs in a multimillion dollar arms deal with a Swedish firm and asked a journalist who made the allegation to help in an investigation.

Defence Minister Krishna Chandra Pant told the Upper House of Parliament that the government was committed to investigating allegations that the Swedish arms manufacturer, AB Bofors, had paid kickbacks to secure the \$1.4-billion contract to sell artillery guns to India.

Two Indian newspapers reported today that the government and Bofors tried to hide the identity of a Swiss-registered firm that allegedly received some of the payoffs in the 1986 deal.

The Statesman and the Indian Express said the "trail" taken by the funds Bofors paid into a Swiss bank account used by the company, Moresco S.A., "ends finally in Italy."

**Connection**

The reports gave no further details on the purported Italian connection, apparently because the newspaper planned to publish articles elaborating on that aspect of the affair.

Allegations that Bofors paid kickbacks to secure the deal first surfaced in 1987, but the charges have mounted as Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi nears a January 1990 deadline for new general elections.

Newspapers have suggested that some of the money could have gone to key members of Rajiv's government or people close to the prime minister.

"We are taking the investigation seriously, and because we are taking it seriously we are taking account of what appeared (in the newspapers)," Pant said at the conclusion of a stormy five-hour debate on the arms contract.

"The government has not concealed anything."

Opposition members, who had demanded Rajiv's resignation at the start of the discussion, said the explanation was "unconvincing and a futile exercise" and walked out of the House.

Earlier, the Minister of State for Home Affairs, Palaniappan Chidambaram, asked Narasimhan Ram, the author of today's newspaper articles, to help in the investigations.

Attempts to conceal the identity of Moresco were aided by key Bofors officials, the newspapers said. Both newspapers published photocopies of what they said were minutes of a meeting between Indian government and Bofors officials. These purported minutes identified the recipients of "commissions" paid by Bofors to secure the arms contract with India.

**Investigations**

Today's articles said officials from India's Central Bureau of Investigation reported to a parliamentary committee that Moresco was a code name for a company named Moineau Sa.

Moineau was non-existent and the name change blocked investigations into the identities of Moresco's owners, the newspapers said.

"The question is why was Moresco kept out and obliterated and decoy Moineau brought in," Indian Express said.

"Is it because Moresco is directly linked to Italians? This will eventually follow," the anti-government newspaper added.

The Statesman, traditionally independent, also said Moresco's "final trail leads in the general direction of Italy" but did not elaborate.

An Italian connection is potential political dynamite.



**Visit protest**  
Women police arrest a Tibetan protester outside the Chinese embassy in New Delhi. At least 30 Tibetan women and children were protesting at the visit to India of Chinese Vice-Premier Wu Xueqian and called on China to give its independence (Reuters wirephoto)

## 150 Pakistanis arrested Riot over Syed's arrest

KARACHI, Oct 13, (AP): Police have arrested more than 150 Pakistanis in the southern province of Sind, officials said today, following riots to protest the detention of a separatist leader early in the week.

Demonstrators of the small but militant Jeay Sind nationalist movement clashed with police in several provincial cities.

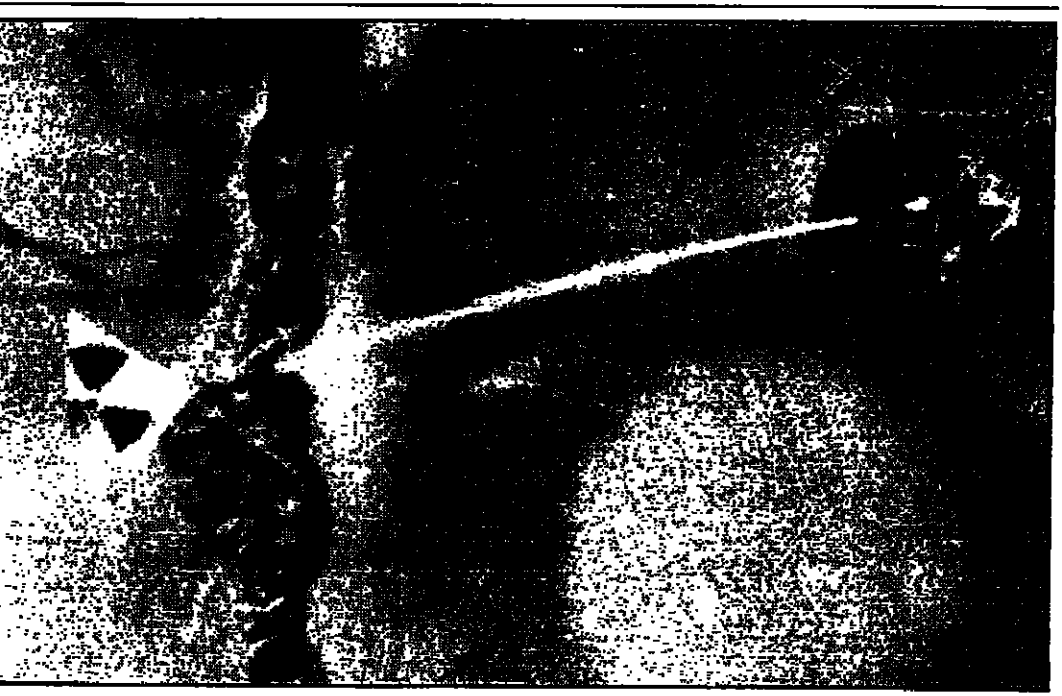
In Karachi, police fired teargas to break up several street riots in which protesters burned cars and motorbikes. However, there were no reports of deaths or serious injuries.

The clashes were in protest over the house arrest of 85-year-old Ghulam Mohammad Syed, whom the government has accused of fomenting unrest.

Syed at first agreed to return to his home village but police apprehended him on Tuesday night as he tried to slip across the border to the neighbouring province of Baluchistan, officials said.

About 50 supporters of Syed stormed Karachi radio station on Tuesday, witnesses said.

Lightening struck a school in Azad Kashmir killing seven children and injuring four others, it was officially announced in Islamabad.



**Hosing down**  
Greenpeace protester John Johnson is hosed down after he climbed up the anchor line aboard the USS Constellation. Johnson was subsequently arrested along with 5 other Greenpeace supporters. Greenpeace demonstrated the arrival of the American aircraft carrier which is docked for the next four days in Vancouver, Canada, for a goodwill visit. (Reuters wirephoto)

## NEWSWATCH

**Thieves into jeweller's shop:** Thieves using a home-made battering ram mounted on a stolen car smashed into a Zurich jewellery store and made off with goods worth 800,000 Swiss francs (\$480,000) on Friday.

Police later recovered the stolen car, but the thieves, who took jewellery and watches from the store's shelves, made good their escape. (Reuters)

**Plane missing with 54 aboard:** Pakistan International Airlines said Friday that a plane missing since Aug 25 with 54 people is presumed to have crashed with no survivors.

The state airline said the victims' heirs could now file claims.

The biggest air and ground search in the country's history failed to trace the twin-engine Fokker 27.

It is believed to have crashed in the rugged Himalayas while on a 45-minute flight from the mountain town of Gilgit to Islamabad, the capital, 175 miles (280 kilometres) to the south. (AP)

**Killed after gay advance:** A 26-year-old man told a court that he killed the father of South African-born runner Zola Budd after being provoked after a homosexual assault.

Chris Barnard, who denies murdering Frank Budd last month, told Bloemfontein magistrates court he moved into Budd's farmhouse home two days before the killing at Budd's suggestion, so that he would be better placed to do building work.

Barnard said he shot dead Budd, 56, after he described Barnard's girlfriend as a bitch. (Reuters)

**'President's snatch authority':** In a move that could help the United States snatch people abroad wanted for crimes such as terrorist attacks on Americans and drug dealing, the FBI has been given authority to seize fugitives without the approval of foreign governments.

Justice Department officials on Friday announced the dramatic change in a policy that required the Federal Bureau of Investigation to get the consent of a foreign government before it moved to apprehend a fugitive wanted in the United States.

The ruling was described by the Los Angeles Times, which first revealed it, as the "president's snatch authority." (Reuters)

**Brundtland steps down:** Labour Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland resigned Friday, yielding the government to a three-party non-socialist coalition after 3-1/2 tough years of minority rule.

Conservative Party chairman Jan Syse, 58, will become prime minister on Monday. Mrs Brundtland remains as caretaker until then.

Mrs Brundtland, 50, helped topple the same conservative-led alliance in 1986, and some analysts predict her return to power within a year.

**Shantytown fire kills 8:** Fire swept through a shantytown Friday, killing a woman and seven children and destroying 200 houses and leaving 1,000 people homeless, officials said.

The victims were trapped in the mud-and-straw houses when the fire engulfed the Kallayanpur slums on the northern outskirts of the capital, said a firefighter, speaking on condition of anonymity. (AP)

**Mother Teresa to return home soon:** Nobel peace prize winner Mother Teresa will soon be able to return home after more than a month in hospital with a heart condition, her doctors said on Friday.

"She is doing well right. Her cardiac condition is under control and she is quite cheerful. She is going to return home shortly," Dr Rajen Watts said.

Hospital sources in Calcutta said Mother Teresa, 79, had also started taking exercise as part of her recovery. (Reuters)

## Saudis crucify beheaded men

NICOSIA, Oct 13, (Reuters): Three men were beheaded and then crucified in public in the Saudi capital Riyadh today, the Interior Ministry said.

Warning that a similar fate would befall other convicted killers, the ministry said the three, two brothers and a relative, had killed three people and wounded a policeman.

Another three men — again two brothers and a relative — were beheaded by the sword after Friday prayers. They were found guilty by a Muslim religious court of armed robbery and beating their victims. Their bodies were not crucified.

The official Saudi Press Agency quoted the ministry as saying: "In announcing this (the executions), the Interior Ministry affirms the government's keenness to maintain order and suppress and strike with an iron fist criminals who try to tamper with the country's security."

## Tank clash unlikely

WASHINGTON, Oct 13, (Reuters): The United States plans to sell 315 of what it describes as the world's best tank to Saudi Arabia, but officials say there are no signs of the deal leading to a major clash with Israel.

(See Page 11)

## Computer virus reported in handful of European countries

LONDON, Oct 13, (Reuters): The Friday 13th computer virus that was expected to wipe out data around the world struck in only a few European countries, according to computer users.

Britain's Royal National Institute for the Blind, the Swiss government's office for organisation and a handful of companies in Portugal and the Netherlands today reported damage, officially known as datarime.

The rogue piece of software set to destroy data and software instructions stored on a hard disk was timed to self-activate on Oct 13.

But Asia was virtually virus-free and international Business Machines Corp, whose computers are the primary target, said no confirmed infections were found in the United States.

Personal computer users have been worrying about the datarime virus since reports of its existence first surfaced at a conference of "hackers", or computer fanatics, in the Netherlands in August.

An unknown culprit reportedly designed software that could infiltrate computer systems unknowingly and lie dormant until triggered by the machine's internal calendar.

A computer virus acts much like a human virus, moving from one piece of uninfected software to another, replicating itself without control. The virus is passed along by unsuspecting computer users through swapping floppy disks, by electronic bulletin boards or over communications networks.

More than 200 different viruses have been discovered over the last few years. The most famous was unleashed into a US government research network last November by a Cornell University student, causing some \$20 million worth of damage.

## Pakistan has no N-bomb

WASHINGTON, Oct 13, (Reuters): President George Bush has notified the US Congress that Pakistan does not possess a nuclear bomb but that it has continued its efforts to develop its nuclear programme over the past year.

The statement was made in a letter to Congress accompanying a certification that Pakistan does not have a nuclear device. The certification, made public on Wednesday, is required under a law that bars US aid to Pakistan if it has a nuclear device.

Bush also said he believed Pakistan was fully aware of the serious consequences that would ensue if the certification could no longer be made.

In today's issue  
a 9-page supplement on  
Shipping and Forwarding

## Marcos family tried to kill Cory

MANILA, Oct 13, (AP): The government today claimed Ferdinand Marcos' family has plotted to kill President Corason Aquino and asked the supreme court to uphold her ban on returning his body to the Philippines for burial.

The claim was made in a brief filed with the supreme court asking it to reject a petition by the former president's supporters to allow members of Marcos' family to return his remains from Hawaii, where he died in exile Sept 28.

In the brief, solicitor general Francisco Chavez claimed that Marcos' elder daughter, Imee, threatened an unidentified official in a telegram that she would "spend the last cent of her millions to kill him."

"The Marcoses have the billions for the same purpose in respect of other targets of murder and mayhem, among whom is no less than President Corason Aquino, the plot on whose life as President has long since been launched by the Marcoses as part and parcel of their continuing destabilisation plans," it said.

The government gave few details to back up its allegations of destabilisation or murder plots. Marcos' supporters have been linked to some of the six armed attempts to topple Aquino since she was swept to office in a civilian-military uprising in Feb 1986.

Aquino cited national security in refusing to allow Marcos' body to return from Hawaii, where he had lived since he was overthrown in a popular uprising three years ago.

Cabinet members said Defence Secretary Fidel Ramos briefed them about plans by Marcos' followers to exploit his funeral to undermine the government. They said the plan included an assassination plot against Aquino.

Aquino today ordered an investigation into allegations by a senator that her narcotics chief and 18 other officials were protecting major drug traffickers.

Sen. Ernesto Herrera said in a speech yesterday that the government's anti-narcotics campaign had failed because the people charged with carrying it out had been bribed to protect drug traffickers.

Suspected Muslim rebels ambushed a military jeep in the southern Philippines yesterday, killing an army captain, his wife and four escorts, a military report said.

The death toll from a typhoon which swept through the Philippines this week rose to 68 today as rescue workers found the crushed and bloated bodies of more victims, officials said.

## Killer formula

MANILA, Oct 13, (Reuters): One million infant deaths a year are still linked to baby formula despite a decade-long campaign by world health officials to promote breast-feeding, delegates at an international conference in Manila said today.

Anwar Fazal, an organiser for the international baby food action network which campaigns against formula, said another 10 million children had health problems because milk formula was often prepared in unsanitary conditions.

"We have unleashed in many parts of the world systems that are associated with the deaths of one million babies a year... we're killing the future," he said in an interview.

Many of the 340 delegates attending the October 9-13 conference, representing 140 health, consumer action and women's groups from 70 countries, said manufacturers of baby formula were to blame.

They said many companies continued to violate an international code approved by the World Health Organisation in 1981 encouraging breast-feeding and meant to stop excessive promotion of baby formula.

Fazal said many companies had complied with the code's ban on advertising but had increased free donations of formula to hospitals, thereby "addicting" babies to formula and discouraging mothers from breast-feeding.



## Farmer finds jet part, gets \$100,000

ALTA, Iowa, Oct 13, (AP): The farmer who found the 400-pound (182-kilogram) engine part suspected of causing a jet crash that killed 112 people learned yesterday she will get a reward of more than \$100,000 from General Electric Co.

"It's just a shock," said Janice Sorenson, who found the piece while harvesting corn Tuesday with a combine.

GE had offered a \$50,000 reward for the titanium fan disk from the rear engine of United Airlines flight 232, which crashed July 19 in Sioux City, killing 112 people of 296 people on board. GE manufactured the engine.

Investigators suspect the fan disk came apart, causing the engine to disintegrate and spew shrapnel that severed the jet's hydraulic system and made the plane virtually impossible to control.

GE spokesman David Lane said the company would not give the amount of reward. But a source close to the matter said it would be about \$130,000 and Sorenson yesterday said GE told her it would be more than \$100,000.

"I'm just in shock. I can manage \$20,000, but this?" she said. Sorenson said she had no immediate plans for the money. She and her husband, Dale, have lived on the farm since 1953.

GE established a reward fund totalling \$271,000 to pay for parts recovered from the crash. Lane said: less than half that amount has been paid.

The disk, which looks like a windmill, was flown to a GE plant near Cincinnati, Ohio, for analysis.

"We don't know yet whether this is the golden nugget we're looking for," said Jim Burnett, a member of the National Transportation Safety Board. "But we're glad we found it."

Sorenson found about two-thirds of the fan disk assembly, and 100 searchers hired by GE will look for the rest of the disk and its hardware over the weekend.

# Scientists discover basic particles of the universe

LOS ANGELES, Oct 13, (AP): Scientists say they are closer to understanding the birth of the universe after using an atom smasher to find strong evidence that the basic building blocks of matter belong to only three families.

"It means that somehow the universe is comprehensible, that it's not a total mystery; that it can be grasped by the human mind," physicist Michael Riordan said by phone from the Stanford Linear Accelerator Centre, 30 miles (48 kilometres) southeast of San Francisco. "It puts a lid on the complexity of nature at its most fundamental level."

Experiments in the centre's 3-mile (4.8-kilometre) long, \$125-million Stanford Linear Collider showed the odds are 25-to-1 that there are only three families or "generations" of fundamental particles — known as quarks and leptons — that make up matter, he said yesterday.

Particles of matter and antimatter were smashed together in the machine with such power that the particles destroyed each other, producing conditions that nearly mimicked the "big bang" — the giant explosion physicists believe created the universe some 15 billion years ago.

Until now, atom smasher experiments indicated only that there were no more than five or six families of fundamental particles, said Burton Richter, the centre's director and the 1976 Nobel laureate in physics.

The new discovery "brings us closer to really understanding the physical universe and how it's put together," Richter said.

Everyday matter is made from the four particles in the first family. They are up quarks, down quarks and two leptons named electrons and electron neutrinos. Protons and neutrons in the nucleus of an atom are made of up and down quarks.

Electrons orbit the nucleus. Electron neutrinos are produced by exploding stars. Particles in the second family are the strange and charmed quarks, and leptons named muons and muon neutrinos.

Members of the third family — first discovered in the mid-1970s — are the bottom quark, the yet-undetected top quark, the tau lepton and the tau neutrino.

Physicists say particles from all three families existed naturally in the fraction of a second after the big bang. But some particles in the second family and all the particles in the third family can't exist naturally today,

although they can be created in atom smashers. That's because the universe is much cooler compared with conditions during the big bang.

If there were more than three families of particles, experiments in Stanford's particle smasher should have produced evidence of more than the three known types of neutrinos and possibly evidence for other quarks and leptons, but no such evidence was found, Riordan said.

The machine, shaped like a giant tennis racket, includes a 2-mile (3.2-kilometre) long linear accelerator that speeds up elec-

trons — the particles that create television pictures — and their antimatter counterparts, called positrons.

In the 1-mile (1.6-kilometre) long part of the machine that looks like the head of the tennis racket, the particles collide, annihilating each other and producing Z particles, which are so heavy they existed naturally only for moments after the big bang.

The 400 Zs produced in Stanford's machine since April quickly decayed into lighter particles such as quarks and leptons, which were studied with an 1,800-tonne detection device.

## MEDICAL FILE

**Study on INF:** Infertile couples trying to have a "test-tube" baby via in-vitro fertilisation seldom succeed after the third or fourth attempt, according to new research.

Doctors at Boston's Beth Israel Hospital, in a letter in the current edition of the New England Journal of Medicine, said none of the 50 women in a test group for whom the technique worked brought a pregnancy to term after the fifth try and only 12 per cent gave birth on the fourth attempt.

The vast majority of test-tube babies, 88 per cent, were born on the first try.

Up to 30 per cent of the women become pregnant each time the technique is tried but only about half the pregnancies result in a birth.

According to national statistics in-vitro fertilisation (IVF) produces a child in one out of every seven attempts.

The study was designed to determine when a couple should stop trying to conceive a child with the technique, which costs \$5,000 to \$7,000 per attempt. (Reuters)

**Aircraft smoking not injurious:** Despite increasing ban on smoking in aircraft, there is no evidence to prove adverse health impact on people exposed to environmental tobacco smoke (ETS), according to environmental toxicologist Dr Larry Holcomb.

Tests of presence of ETS — a mixture of exhaled smoke by the smoker and sidestream smoke from the burning tip of the cigarette which is diluted in air and changed over time — have shown only insignificant levels of smoke constituents, especially in non-smoking sections, the expert pointed out.

In an interview to Kuna, the scientist said that air-conditioning can efficiently clean air. "This is completely at the discretion of the captain who controls the fresh air supply inside the aircraft," Holcomb stated.

The expert cited a 1989 Swedish study at the centre for indoor air research which concluded that the total exposure to cabin air ETS among passengers is insignificant in comparison to total life exposure to air pollution.

In actual terms, Dr Holcomb has calculated that a flight attendant is exposed to the equivalent of less than one cigarette a year which is "completely insignificant in terms of possible impact," compared to a smoker who consumes an average of 11,000 cigarettes per year, he said. (Kuna)

**Breakthrough in cancer:** A cheap and effective way of producing antibodies to help the body fight diseases such as cancer was announced on

Thursday by leading British researchers.

The "breakthrough" could make it easier to produce "magic bullets" against cancer or help save people who have taken overdoses, the British Medical Research Council (MRC) said.

A group of medical experts made the discovery at the MRC laboratory in Cambridge, southern England.

The council said industry, both in Britain and overseas was already gearing up to exploit the opportunities.

Details of the new-style antibodies are published in this week's issue of the US-based science journal, Nature, and they were also highlighted by the British media. (Kuna)

**Bulging arteries grow slowly:** Potentially dangerous bulges in the abdomen's major blood vessel seldom burst until they are more than two inches (five cm) in diameter and may grow far more slowly than most doctors believe, according to new research.

Such a bulge, known as an abdominal aortic aneurysm, can lead to death and a doctor must decide whether to operate to prevent it from eventually bursting.

Mayo clinic researchers led by Martin P. Nevitt report in the current edition of the New England Journal of Medicine that none of the 181 patients they studied had an aneurysm burst at less than two inches (five cm) in diameter.

The rupture rate was 25 per cent over five years among patients whose aneurysm was two inches (five cm) or larger.

The researchers also found the growth rate for aneurysms was slower than conventional wisdom said. (Reuters)

**Gas linked to genetic damage:** A gas used to fumigate grain and produce computer chips appears to damage the genes of exposed workers, but it is too early to determine whether the defects are harmful researchers said yesterday.

A new study involving 24 men exposed to phosphine gas while working as grain fumigators in 1987 and 1988 in Minnesota produced evidence the chemical causes chromosomal damage, researchers said.

"It could mean nothing or it could mean something quite biologically significant," said Dr Vincent Garry, an associate professor of laboratory medicine and pathology at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis who led the study.

"The primary implications is we need to be more careful in the way we use (such chemicals)," Garry said.

## Americans and German share science Nobel

Discoveries forced rewrite of textbooks

STOCKHOLM, Oct 13, (AP): Four American scientists and a West German won Nobel prizes in physics and chemistry yesterday for discoveries which have given the world exact measurement of time and could help explain the origins of life.

Canadian-born Sidney Altman, of Yale University, and Thomas Cech, of the University of Colorado in Boulder, were awarded the chemistry prize for their "discovery of catalytic properties of RNA."

Bertil Andersson, a member of the Nobel committee of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, said their work has forced "the rewrite of whole chapters" in chemistry textbooks and could help understand the atom, rather than by the rotation of the earth, based on Ramsey's discovery.

An atomic clock using cesium deviates by just 1,000th of a second in 300 years, said Ingvar Lindgren, chairman of the awarding committee.

German-born Hans G. Dehmelt, 67, of the University of Washington in Seattle, and Wolfgang Paul, 76, of the University of Bonn, West Germany shared the second half of the \$469,000 physics prize for developing ways of trapping particles to study them with extreme precision.

The academy said they had realised "a long-felt dream" of scientists in the field.

The three physics laureates "have developed exact methods of measurement which has made it possible to conduct experiments that might force us to reconsider some basic physical laws, especially regarding time and space," said Lindgren.

Paul, 76, who heard the news on his car radio, joked later that his ion trap was an invention "to measure every speck of dust."

"This is a surprise for me. I never saw, myself, the practical relevance of it," Paul said.

Ramsey, reached at his Massachusetts home, told the Associated Press, "it feels great. I'm just delighted, and I'm delighted with the people with whom I'm sharing the prize."

Cech, 41, reached in Boston, said, "I am obviously excited about it. It was something that everyone has been telling me would happen, but I had no way of knowing when."

Asked about his plans for his half of the prize money, he said, "I have two young daughters who are very good at spending money."

The Canadian-born Altman, 50, reached in New Haven, Connecticut, said, "I'm very happy. I'm very grateful to all my colleagues and co-workers, teachers and family."

Ramsey developed a way to study the structure of atoms by exciting them to different energy levels using two oscillating electromagnetic fields.

That led to the development of the hydrogen maser, a laser-like device that excites hydrogen atoms and provided the most detailed determination of their internal structure. Another application was the cesium atomic clock, in which cesium atoms are excited to higher levels.

Dehmelt and Paul were recognised for the development of the technique for trapping single ions — electrically charged atoms — according to their weight. These "ion traps" could in the future provide even more exact time measurement, Lindgren said.

To win the chemistry award, Cech and Altman showed independently that RNA, or ribonucleic acid, could be a catalyst, or trigger, for chemical reactions in the cell.

Their discoveries disproved a 75-year-old dogma that enzymes, or the triggers of reactions inside cells, are always proteins. They proved that RNA also can be a catalyst, and not just the messenger of genetic codes from DNA, Andersson said.

Professor Ulf Lagerqvist said scientists now believe RNA "was first on stage" when life evolved.

When Altman discovered in 1978 that RNA could produce catalytic reactions in the cell, the discovery was met with disbelief and "he could hardly believe it himself," said Andersson.

He said Altman was "teased" at first by other scientists for his claim.

Four years later Cech demonstrated that the RNA molecule was not only necessary to the reaction, but could trigger the reaction by itself, without associated proteins that had been thought essential.

how life began.

It changed dogmas on how cells function, he said. The discovery will also "probably provide a new tool for gene technology, with potential to create a new defence against viral infections" and virus-resistant plants, the academy said.

Norman F. Ramsey, 74, of Harvard University, was awarded half of the physics prize for inventing a method for measuring time that is the basis for the present standard of time.

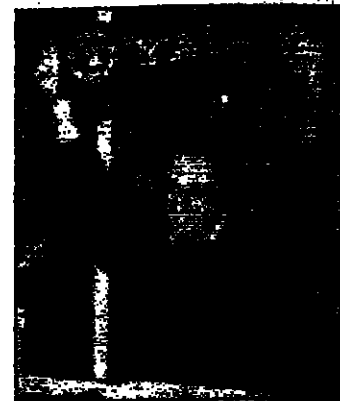
Since 1967, time has been measured according to oscillations within



Dr. Hans G. Dehmelt. (Reuters wirephoto)



Norman Ramsey. (Reuters wirephoto)



Sidney Altman. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Scientists genetically engineer animals

ATHENS, Ohio, Oct 13, (AP): Two American scientists have developed a process to genetically engineer animals that could revolutionise medical and agricultural research, Ohio University officials say.

The "DNA microinjection process" was developed by Ohio University molecular geneticist Thomas E. Egnor and Peter C. Hoppe, a researcher at Jackson Laboratories in Bar Harbor, Maine.

It is expected to receive a patent from the US Patent Office this month for commercial use.

Wagner and Hoppe say the process could boost agricul-

tural production and improve medical and pharmaceutical research and manufacturing.

In 1981, a team led by Wagner first used the technique to transfer a gene for rabbit hemoglobin — the material in red blood cells that carries oxygen throughout the body — into a mouse embryo, passing rabbit blood traits to the mouse.

Pigs, rats, mice, goats and other animals have since been altered using the technique.

Wagner was first interested in the concept for boosting agricultural production, such as by producing cows that give more milk or animals that are disease-resistant.

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## Evidence of UFO landing in NYC

NEW YORK, Oct. 13, (AP) — A UFO researcher claims that something from outer space dropped in on a park in New York City seven months ago, long before copycat extraterrestrials reportedly stopped by the Soviet Union.

"Absolutely, there was some type of UFO in Kissena Park," Bill Knell said, undaunted by sceptical reporters or smirking passersby in the park in the city borough of Queens.

Knell spoke two days after the Soviet news agency Tass reported the presence of 12-foot, (4-metre) tiny-headed extraterrestrials in Voronezh in the Soviet Union.

Neither story impressed local residents, who were more concerned with Knell's presence in the park than any report of wandering Martians.

"This is my haunt. I've been coming to this park for years, and there's nothing going on here," said Julie Ford, shaking her head and laughing. "They say that tree there was burned by a UFO. It was broken by kids swinging on the branches."

Knell did offer the damaged willow as evidence of an otherworldly experience. But he also offered a mineralogist's report that the burned circle contained particles of felspar quartz found typically on the Caribbean island of Aruba, not in Queens.

According to Knell, five people riding a bus through Queens the night of March 9 saw "very bright lights" hovering near the lake in the flushing park. Since the park is located between Kennedy and Laguardia airports, they initially thought it was a downed aircraft, said Knell.

Based on their accounts and other evidence, Knell said, UFO investigators determined the sighting was legitimate.

But unlike the Soviet incident and other reported UFO incidents, the people who spotted something in Queens never saw the aliens or spoke with them. Knell thinks he knows why.

"I believe they have their own agenda, and at this time it doesn't include communication," said Knell, who addressed several sceptical reporters at the site where the UFO allegedly singled the park's ground in a roughly oval shape.

Unfortunately, that's also the site where the remnants of a downed willow (tree were piled, killing off all the grass underneath, said park maintenance man Joe Mackey, 60.

"If there was a spot around here burned out, I would have known about it," said Mackey, who spends three days a week in the park. "It's a figment of somebody's imagination."

**Glowing ball**  
An Iowa farmer who thought flying saucers were "nonsense" now is not so sure after watching what she said was a pair of bright glowing objects fly silently over her house on Wednesday night.

Carol Drake said she had just completed some chores and was settling down inside her home when she noticed a strange red glow on the horizon.

"I wondered what it was, I went outside and another object appeared, this one yellow," she said yesterday. "The red object got brighter and it turned yellow. It gave me a funny feeling."

Drake called her daughter and son-in-law, Kim and Cameron Walker, who also saw the objects. In their excitement, Drake said they forgot to film the scene on her daughter's video camera.

"I assumed they were airplanes but they didn't make any noise and they slowly moved closer," she said.

Drake said the objects flew over her farm. She said up in the air they appeared to be bright glowing balls about the size of headlights from an oncoming car.

Robert Gribble, director of the national UFO reporting centre in Seattle, said he had not heard about the Iowa sighting but said police in Lexington, Kentucky reported seeing a moving UFO with changing colours on Wednesday night.

**Conversation**  
They came from planet Red Star. But when a Soviet reporter asked the extraterrestrials to take him home with them, the answer was negative.

"There would be no return for you and it would be dangerous for us... you would bring thought bacteria," reporter Pavel Mukhortov says the glowing creatures told him during their encounter in the Ural mountains.

Mukhortov's report on what he called the first encounter between earthlings and aliens was published in Komsomolskaya Pravda. It was the latest in a series of fantastic accounts in the official Soviet media.



**Sphinx in New York**

On a barge, a mammoth replica of the Great Sphinx of Egypt floats past the Statue of Liberty Oct. 11, enroute to Giants Stadium for the International

Opera Festival's production of Aida. (Reuter wire-photo)

## Royal kin blame themselves

# 'Marina destroyed us'

LONDON, Oct. 13, (Reuter) — The father of Marina Ogilvy, the unmarried but pregnant cousin of Queen Elizabeth, was quoted yesterday as saying that he and his wife felt destroyed by their daughter.

Three days after Ogilvy, 23, claimed she had been cut off by her parents for becoming pregnant, the Sun newspaper quoted Sir Angus Ogilvy as saying: "I feel at the bottom of my heart that she is gone. It is over."

He added: "Marina has destroyed us both." Sir Angus Ogilvy, 61, said he and his wife, Princess Alexandra, 52, had hardly slept since their daughter went into hiding abroad with her boyfriend, photographer Paul Mowatt, the Sun reported. "My wife and I both feel that we have to blame ourselves as parents," Sir Angus Ogilvy said. "Who else can we blame?"

In an interview published on Monday, Marina

Ogilvy claimed Princess Alexandra had told her to get married or have an abortion.

Ogilvy, a trained pianist who is 24th in line to the throne, told today newspaper that her parents had cut off her monthly allowance of 280 pounds sterling (\$435).

They denied this and said she was always welcome at their home.

Dark-haired Ogilvy has no title because her businessman father is a commoner.

She has said that she and Mowatt, 26, want to wait until she has the baby before getting married. Mowatt's father was quoted by the Daily Mail as saying he wanted his son to marry Marina now.

Former British army bandsman David Mowatt, who now plays the trumpet in a Munich 'Oompah' band, said: "I shall write to my son asking him to consider getting married soon."

## PEOPLE AND PLACES

**MINNEAPOLIS:** The mother and stepfather of an 11-year-old boy who died of diabetes complications have been charged with manslaughter for withholding traditional medical treatment because of their Christian science religious beliefs.

Kathleen Mckown, 39, and William Mckown, 57, were indicted for second-degree manslaughter by a Hennepin county grand jury Tuesday in the May 9 death of Ian Mckown. Also named in the indictments unsealed on Wednesday was Mario Tosto, 48, another Christian science practitioner who prayed for the child but was not present in the home when he died. Tosto is named in one count of intentionally aiding in creating an unreasonable risk of death.

It is believed to be the first time in Minnesota that someone has been indicted for a death in which they followed religious beliefs rather than traditional medicine, assistant Hennepin county attorney Robert Stretz said. (UPI)

**GRAND RAPIDS, Michigan:** A former nursing home aide was sentenced to 20 to 40 years in prison on Wednesday for helping another elderly patient in a pact with her lesbian lover.

"Without you, I'm sure this matter never would have been cleared up," circuit judge Robert Benson said in sentencing Catherine Wood, who had pleaded guilty and testified against her lover.

In a statement read by her lawyer, Wood said: "Saying 'I'm sorry' is not enough. Mere words cannot express my feelings of remorse."

Wood, 27, admitted serving as lookout while some of five patients at Alpine Manor Nursing Home in Walker were suffocated by another former aide, Gwendolyn Graham. (AP)

**LOS ANGELES:** Actress Bette Davis, whose tempestuous and fiery public career spanned a half-century, was buried on Thursday in a private ceremony attended by two dozen relatives and close friends, officials said.

Davis, who died six days ago in Paris at the age of 81, was interred in the Davis family sarcophagus at Forest Lawn Memorial Park Hollywood Hills, cemetery spokesman Dick Fisher said.

"It was a small, private gathering," Fisher said, adding that about 25 family members and close friends listened to a eulogy by the Rev. Robert M. Bock of the first Christian church of north Hollywood. "There were no well-known names there," he said. (UPI)



**'Upside down'**

The unique bloc of four 'upside down' 1918 US airmail stamps bearing the plate number was expected to break the world auction record for stamps when it is sold at Christie's gallery. (Reuter wirephoto)

**HARRISBURG, Illinois:** A man who escaped a month ago from a Kentucky jail might have remained at large had he not groined when Illinois authorities searching for him knelt on the couch he was hiding under.

Saline county authorities said on Thursday they arrested Charles B. Beard, 26, late Wednesday in a private home. Another man was charged with harbouring a fugitive.

"One of the searches put his knee on the couch to look behind it and we heard an 'Uh-huh'," said Ed Miller, chief deputy sheriff of Saline county. "He did it again and we heard another groan. Then we saw a little bit of his tennis shoe sticking out."

Miller said Beard was unarmed and offered no resistance. (UPI)

## A flop Broadway 'Shylock' gets second chance

LONDON, Oct. 13, (AP) — A Broadway flop of a decade ago is getting a second chance in London with a new star, a new title — and its author's sustained belief in his play's importance.

"It belongs to a very good tradition of work taking some time to get accepted," British dramatist Arnold Wesker said of his play "The Merchant."

Now retitled "Shylock."

"When people see it, they're actually knocked out by it,"

Wesker, 57, said his distaste for Shakespeare's treatment of Shylock spurred him to write his own "Shylock." And he added that no staging of Shakespeare's "Merchant," even an ironic one, solved his problems with that play.

"Shylock still comes as a dreadful, bloodsucking, revengeful, unforgiving personality... (but) revenge was never a part of the Jewish personality,"

said Wesker, himself Jewish.

"The theatre establishment enjoys its favourite Jewish villain," said Wesker. "Shakespeare's intention wasn't anti-semitic, it's his impact that is."

Wesker said his own play is about more than Judaism: "It's a play about friendship, about the state of the individual." Wesker develops the rapport between Shylock and the merchant Antonio beyond the antagonism found in Shakespeare.

The 1977 Broadway engagement of Wesker's play was bedeviled by setbacks.

Star Zero Mostel died after his first tryout performance in Philadelphia.

# Wonder world of records

LONDON, Oct. 13, (UPI) — Joe Ponder of Love Valley, North Carolina, lifted a 606-pound (274.9 kg) pumpkin 18 inches (45.7 cm) off the ground — with his teeth.

Jugalchandra Kundu of Calcutta, India, wrote a poem consisting of 437 characters on a single grain of rice in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Antonio Gomes Dos Santos of Nazare, Portugal, stood completely motionless in a shopping centre for 15 hours, 2 minutes and 55 seconds.

Once again, people proved they will do anything to get into the Guinness Book of Records, which published its 1990 edition today. The 310-page book includes 15,000 records, one-fifth of which are new.

Guinness has compiled more than 140,000 records since 1955 when the brewery first published its guide to help settle arguments in the 81,400 pubs in Britain and in Ireland.

The book is available in 35 languages, has been the top-selling copyrighted book since 1974, and its global sales passed 60 million in

1988, the brewery said.

Additions to this year's book include the world's highest salary — \$550 million paid to American "junk bond king" Michael Milken by Drexel Burnham Lambert, Inc. in 1987, and the most lucrative Golden Handshake — F. Ross Johnson collected \$53.8 million for quitting as RJR Nabisco chairman in February.

Git Kaur Randhawa of Hayes, England, set a new record for most attempts at a driving test. She passed on her 48th try, after 330 lessons.

The heaviest person alive is T.J. Albert Jackson, of Canton, Mississippi, who tips the scales at 890.6 pounds (404) kg. He has a 116-inch waist (294 cm) and a 29 1/2-inch (75 cm) neck.

Michael and James Lanier, 29, are the world's tallest identical twins, each measuring 7-foot-4 (223.3 cm). At age 14 the boys from Troy, Michigan, measured 7-foot-1 (216 cm).

The record for the most marriages in the monogamous world is held by Glynn "Scotty" Wolfe, a former Baptist minister from Blyth, California, who has married 27 times since

1927. He believes he is the father of 41 children, Guinness said.

The World's oldest person is Carrie C. White of Palatka, Florida, who was born on Nov. 18, 1874, making her 115 years old, Guinness said.

In sports, Romanian Paula Ivan set a women's record when she ran a mile in 4 minutes, 15.61 seconds in Nice, France, July 10, 104 years after a man first ran that fast. Javier Sotomayor of Cuba became the first person to break the 8-foot high-jumping barrier when he cleared exactly that height in San Juan, Puerto Rico, July 21.

Charnoy Thipyasa was sentenced to 141,078 years in prison for swindling millions of dollars from the Thai people.

Guinness said sports endurance marathons will be dropped from subsequent editions because "the quality of play in the activity in question has frequently declined to such a level that it is questionable that the essence of the game is being played at all."

## Experts find Globe remains

LONDON, Oct. 13, (AP) — Down beneath a parking lot, under a mulch of hazelnuts left perhaps by snacking drama patrons, archaeologists believe they have found the remains of William Shakespeare's Globe theatre.

"Certainty is a scarce commodity in archaeology but the probability is very high," said Harvey Sheldon, a senior archaeologist at the Museum of London. "Essentially, this is the site where the Globe ought to lie."

A large plaque put up nearby in 1909 by the Shakespeare Reading Society of London identified the likely site of the most famous Elizabethan theatre on the south bank of the River Thames.

The hopes of Shakespeare lovers were rewarded yesterday with the first glimpses of three chalk and brick foundations walls that Sheldon said were part of the back of the theatre.

"Finding the theatre as a marker is very important," he said. "Clearly, the importance in terms of scholarship can only come from investigation."

The Globe was built in the spring of 1599 by Cuthbert and Richard Burbage and a company of actors including Shakespeare. Little was known about the shape except that it was described as "This Wooden O" in the prologue to "Henry V."

"If you look at the outline (of the remains) from the top, you'll see it is actually beginning to make the O shape," said Sheldon.

Also linking the remains to Shakespeare's playhouse was the discovery of a large quantity of crushed hazelnut shells near one wall, he said.

Hazelnuts were the Elizabeth equivalent of popcorn and Sheldon said the shells appear to have been used as a building material, possibly to level the theater's floors.

The Globe became one of the most popular theatres of its day and saw the first performances of Shakespeare's great tragedies including "Hamlet," "Othello," "King Lear" and "Macbeth."

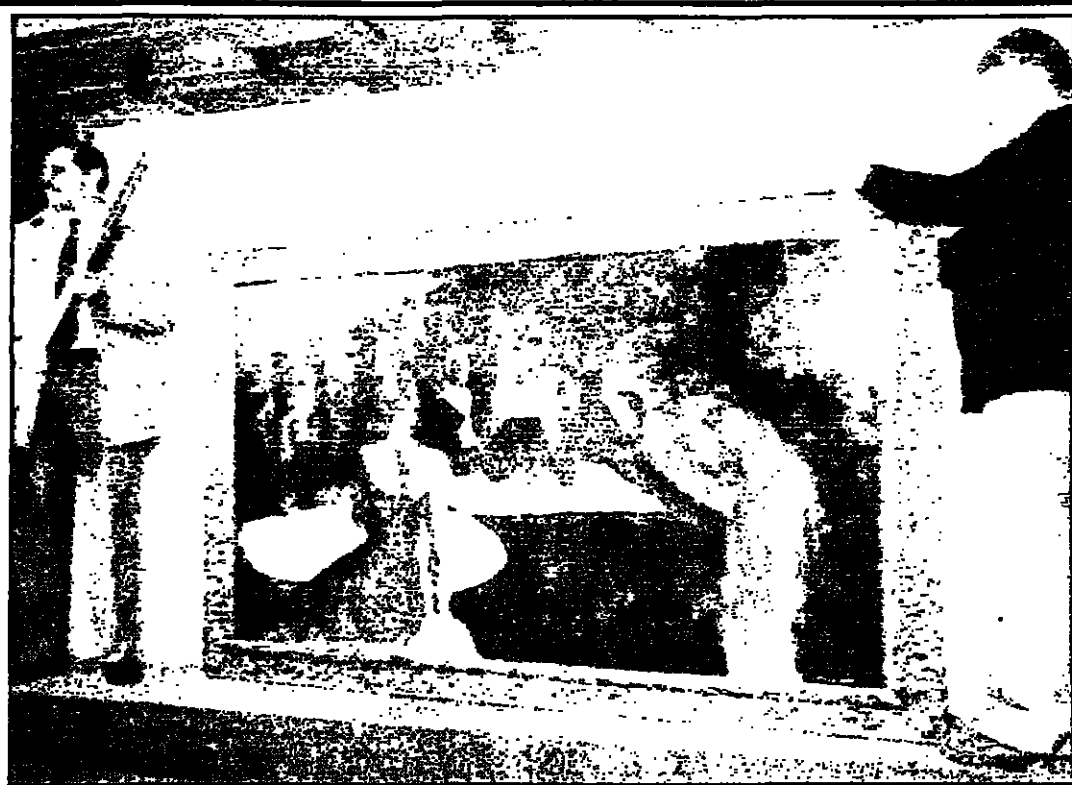
During the first performance of Shakespeare's "Henry VIII" on June 29, 1613, a cannon that discharged set fire to the theatre and it was destroyed. The only injury, according to a contemporary account by Sir Henry Wotton, was to a man whose breeches caught fire but who had the "provident wit (to) put it out with bottle ale."

The Globe was rebuilt the following year on the old foundations, and again was a hit with audience who paid 1 penny for the pit, 2 pence for the gallery and 3 pence for a seat. The most privileged sat on stools on the stage.

But the puritans were against public displays and helped push an ordinance through Parliament in 1642 banning stage plays. The Globe and other theatres closed. It was demolished two years later.

Archaeologists knew the general location of the Globe but it was the sale of the Courage Brewery by owners Imperial PLC three years ago to the British conglomerate Hanson PLC that eventually led to the excavation of the brewery's parking lot this summer.

Sheldon said the remains were discovered in the northwest corner of the lot, the last section on the 21,500-square-foot (2,000-square-metre) site to be cleared of metal-reinforced concrete.



**'Noces de Pierrette' up for auction**

It's bold, blue and totally Picasso. And when the painting, unveiled Thursday, is auctioned off next month, art dealers say it will spark one of the most expensive bidding wars in art history.

"It's worth at least 300 million francs (\$50 million), but could be sold for much more," said Laure de Gramont, a spokeswoman for the Drouot Montaigne auction house, which is co-ordinating the painting's Nov. 30, auction.

If the predictions hold true, the painting will be the most

expensive ever auctioned off in France and one of the costliest in all the world.

The world's record-setting auction was held last May in New York, where another Picasso was sold for 300 million francs. The French record belongs to a Modigliani work which bid out at 258 million francs (\$43 million).

The Picasso painting titled "Les Noces de Pierrette" (The Wedding of Pierrette), is guarded by armed guards. (Reuter wirephoto)

# National Book award

## Ten finalists chosen

NEW YORK, Oct. 13, (AP) — "Billy Bathgate," E.L. Doctorow's tale about the 1930s underworld, and "The Joy Luck Club," Amy Tan's account of four Chinese women and their daughters, were among the 10 finalists for National Book awards announced yesterday.

Doctorow's earlier novel, "World's End," captured a 1986 National Book award.

His "Billy Bathgate," published by Random House, and Tan's "The Joy Luck Club," by G.P. Putnam's Sons, are nominees in the fiction category along with:

■ "Spartina" (Knopf), John Casey's study of a fisherman's struggle to become master of his life.

■ "Greek Love" (Knopf), Katherine Dunn's novel about freaks in a travelling carnival.

■ "The Mambo Kings Play Songs of Love" (Farrar, Straus and Giroux), Oscar Hijuelos's portrait of Brothers From Havana who become minor celebrities as musicians in New York nightclubs.

Last year's finalists in the non-fiction category included four biographies. But this year, all of the non-fiction finalist books deal with public policy. They are:

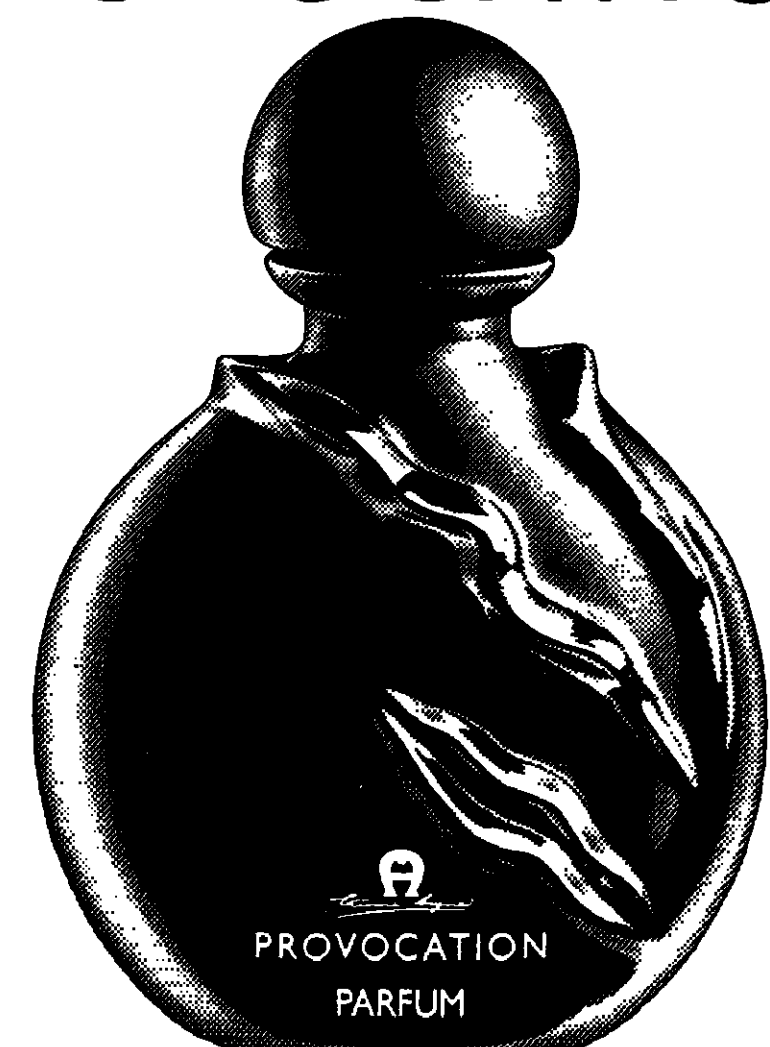
■ "Danger and Survival: choices about the bomb in the first fifty years," (Random House, Inc.), McGeorge Bundy's political history of the nuclear bomb.

■ "From Beirut to Jerusalem," (Farrar, Straus and Giroux), Thomas L. Friedman's account of the Middle East conflict.

■ "Barbarian Sentiments: How the American Century Ends," (Farrar, Straus and Giroux), William Pfaff's analysis of American foreign policy since World War II.

■ "Mother Country," (Farrar, Straus and Giroux), Marilynne Robinson's investigation of environmental policies in Great Britain.

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## 'Green River' victim 41 found

SEATTLE, Oct. 13, (AP) — A woman's skeleton found near Seattle-Tacoma International Airport is from the 41st confirmed victim of the Green River serial killer, investigators say.

The remains of Andrea Marion Childers, who was 19 when she disappeared in 1983, were found Wednesday just 50 yards (metres) from where three other victims had been uncovered six years ago, authorities said.

Capt. Robert Evans, who heads the Green River task force, said late Wednesday he had no doubt she was the 41st victim. Eight other young women are missing and believed slain by the killer, who remains at large.

"The time of disappearance, what little we know now about the background of the victim is similar to a lot of our victims," he said. "The location... the circumstances of the found victim, those kinds of things are certainly indicative of a Green River victim."

"She was known to associate with prostitution," said Cecil Ray, a King county police spokesman.

Many prostitutes were among the victims in the killings, which occurred from the summer of 1982 to early 1984. The killer operated primarily in the Puget Sound area; the bodies of the first five victims were found near the Green River, giving the case its name.

No arrests have been made, but William J. Stevens II, 38, of Spokane, has been described by task force investigators as a "viable suspect."

He has been jailed in Spokane on federal weapons charges.

Ray said it was not known what impact the discovery of the skeleton might have on the 7-year-old investigation. The identification was made through dental records.

Ray said the task force has always believed there may be more victims.

Ray said Ms. Childers was last seen by her boyfriend in April 1983, when police in suburban Edmonds received a missing person report about her.

She was on her way to a shopping area frequented by prostitutes near the airport.

Green River investigators were called to a site south of the airport on Wednesday after a worker who was cutting brush found a skull.

A woman's headless, handless and partially clad body was found between stalks of corn a farmer harvesting his field, sheriff's office said yesterday.

The clad was found Wednesday, Sgt. Richard Scott of the sheriff's office said.

## Latin leaders blast Panama, back drugs fight at summit

ICA, Peru, Oct. 13, (Reuters) — Seven Latin American presidents ended a two-day summit yesterday with a ringing condemnation of Panama's military government and a pledge to support the fight against the region's cocaine barons.

But while attacking human rights violations and the crushing of democracy by de facto ruler General Manuel Noriega, the seven stopped short of expelling Panama, a founder member of their so-called group of eight suspended last year for its political problems.

They also warned Washington it must stand by commitments to relinquish control gradually over the Panama Canal.

Panama is due to take over daily administrative control of the waterway, linking the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, from the beginning of next year.

"International law demands the treaties... on the canal are fully carried out," the presidents said.

Drugs, Panama, debt and plans for boosting regional trade dominated the summit, the third annual meeting of the leaders of democratically-ruled Latin American nations, in the desert resort town of Ica 190 miles (300 km) south of Lima.

"Unfortunately, the problem of Panama persists with its absence of democracy and violations of human rights," the seven — Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela — said in a statement.

But the presidents said Panama would remain excluded from the group, set up three years ago to support a return to democracy in Latin America, until "democratic guarantees, today absolutely ignored, are once more respected," they said.

Diplomatic sources said Venezuela and Peru had come to the meeting seeking Panama's expulsion from the group, but that other countries opposed such drastic action.

Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez afterwards described Panama as an "operetta regime" and a danger for the democratic process in Latin America, but said there was total agreement on the final statement.

The seven, which include two of the region's principle cocaine-producing countries, said they would seek tighter co-ordination of policies to confront the multi-billion dollar trade and applauded the tough action

being taken by Colombia's President Virgilio Barco against the country's cocaine cartels.

The presidents concluded the summit with a statement condemning human rights abuses in Panama and urging the United Nations to help the region cope with its violent anti-drug war.

The statement followed two days of meetings in Ica, 155 miles southeast of Lima.

The group expressed its "firm support to the people and government of Colombia for their important struggle against narcotics traffickers" and "called for a special UN session to focus on the anti-drug fight."

President George Bush, on a political trip to the US southern Gulf coast, said yesterday, he expected a drug summit to produce more international co-operation in combating narcotics trafficking.

"This is the perfect opportunity for me to announce personally that I have accepted the invitation of the three Andean nations to attend a very important drug summit," he said.

The leaders of Colombia, Bolivia and Peru called on Tuesday for the meeting within 90 days.



Drunken rampage

Hundreds of visiting American sailors were confined to their ships yesterday as officers investigated a drunken rampage that left many injured, some reportedly from severe and indiscriminate beatings by Portuguese police.

Police said they arrested 121 British and American mariners who Wednesday night besieged a police station, smashed windows in shops and bars and overturned cars.

Paulino Cardoso, duty officer at Lisbon's security police, said the battle started after three black American seamen attacked a white American sailor at a bar in Lisbon's gaudy, neon-lit Cais do Soeiro area.

Police revised an earlier report that fighting began with clashes between black American and white British sailors.

Fighting spread along the narrow, cobbled streets of the seedy, riverside area, and brawlers were joined by British seamen from the aircraft carrier Ark Royal, Cardoso said.

Cmdr. Christopher Thomas of the Ark Royal, which arrived in Lisbon Wednesday for a five-day goodwill visit, said yesterday that only a few British sailors were "caught up" in the fighting.

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## Italian prince to stand trial for manslaughter

BASTIA, Corsica, Oct. 13, (Reuters) — After 11 years of deliberations, a Corsican court has ordered the pretender to the Italian throne to stand trial for the fatal shooting of a West German youth.

Prince Victor Emmanuel of Savoy, 52-year-old son of Italy's 1st king, will be tried for manslaughter before a criminal court in the Corsican capital Ajaccio, court sources said. No date for the trial has been set.

The shooting dates from August 1978 when the prince was on holiday on his yacht off Bonifacio, at the southern tip of the French Mediterranean Island.

Victor Emmanuel later told police he noticed his dinghy was missing. Spotting it tied alongside a neighbouring yacht he set out to recover it taking his military rifle.

Moments later shots rang out and 19-year-old Dirk Jeerd Hamer, on board another vessel, was hit in the groin and leg by a stray bullet.

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## Anxiety over computer virus

NEW YORK, Oct. 13, (AP) — Computer users waited nervously for the stroke of midnight today — the point at which a computer "virus" may have started destroying their systems.

Experts were divided on whether their fears were justified.

A computer "virus" is a rogue programme that is insinuated onto a disc or into another programme. Once released, the virus copies itself at a virulent rate, eating up a computer's processing capability and destroying stored information.

Since March, a dozen versions have been found of a virus that is programmed to do its dirty work at 12.01 am today. Users could have acquired the virus by buying or borrowing infected discs or by copying a tainted programme from an electronic "bulletin board" network.

"Our advice to people is stop worrying," said Dennis Steinhauser of the National Institute of Standards and Technology. "People should make a backup copy of their files and don't call me in the morning. There's virtually no way this virus can spread around and cause any significant damage at all."

But others feel the threat is ignored at one's peril.

"We're talking about a communicable disease that is absolutely indiscriminate," said Winn Schwartzman, president of American Computer Security Industries in Nashville, Tennessee.

"It's not going to be armageddon today or tomorrow. But if you ignore it and you're infected, the risk is high for getting your data destroyed," Schwartzman said.

By coincidence, more than 2,000 of the nation's top computer security experts convened their annual meeting yesterday in Baltimore, Maryland.

Organisers said few, if any, opted to stay on the job because of the virus threat.

The virus, also known as dastardise, is programmed to scramble indexing information in IBM or IBM-compatible personal computers.

The virus, of unknown origin, has been identified about 12 times since March 1, when experts first discovered suspicious strings of code that had attached themselves to programmes.

A number of programmers, including IBM, have developed ways to detect if a disk or programme has been contaminated.

Dozens of personal computers in Swiss government offices have been infected with rogue viruses a day before Friday the 13th, when experts fear a worldwide outbreak.

Hong Kong appears to have escaped disaster from two computer virus exported from the United States and programmed to kick in today, but experts warned computer users they may not be so lucky next time round.

Atlanta, Oct. 13, (AP) — The memoirs of the man who marched beside the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr depict the civil rights leader as a man of outstanding moral character who had a weakness for women.

"And The Walls Came Tumbling Down," published this month by Harper and Row, chronicles the Rev. Ralph David Abernathy's life as King's closest friend and confidant.

Abernathy reveals that King had encounters with various women on the night before his April 4, 1968, assassination at a Memphis, Tennessee, hotel.

The revelation corroborates longstanding reports that King had extramarital affairs.

But in an advance copy of the book, Abernathy staunchly defends his friend's morality, without condoning his activities. He explains that he felt compelled to write of "my friend's weakness for women," and devotes part of one chapter in the 610-page book to King's private affairs.

King "believed in the Biblical prohibitions against sex outside of marriage. It was just that he had a particularly difficult time with that temptation," Abernathy wrote.

"He was... a man who attracted women, even when he didn't intend to, and attracted them in droves," Abernathy said. "He was a hero — the

## Bush wants Noriega out

### First shot at Panama situation

WASHINGTON, Oct. 13, (Agencies) — President George Bush today defended his lack of action on Panama, saying he had seen nothing in reports to indicate he should have used force to help rebels overthrow General Manuel Antonio Noriega last week.

But he told a news conference some fine-tuning in US crisis management may be needed.

"I've not seen any fact in all the reports that have come out that would make me have done something different in terms of the use of force (in the Oct 3 coup attempt)," Bush said.

He added, "if we can fine-tune our crisis management system, so much the better."

The President has come under criticism in Capitol Hill and elsewhere for not using troops of the US southern command stationed in Panama to help coup leaders overthrow Noriega.

US officials have maintained that congressional restrictions against covert operations hampered their efforts to help the coup leaders, who were arrested and in some cases killed when Noriega's loyalist forces rescued their chief.

Bush, saying this was his "first shot I've had at explaining" US handling of the coup attempt, said he wanted broader powers in this area but had not yet made an official request of Congress despite news reports suggesting he had.

He said he would not rule out the use of force in Panama in the future, adding: "I wouldn't mind using force if it could be done in a prudent manner."

"I wanted to see him (Noriega) out of there and I want to see him brought to justice," the President said. The United States has been trying to oust Noriega for two years, since he came under US indictment on drug-trafficking charges.

The White House plans to issue specific guidelines to US officials in Panama so they can provide clearer and more rapid communication with potential coup plotters, the New York Times reported today.

It said the decision "amounts to a reaffirmation of President Bush's invitation to the Panamanian military to overthrow Noriega."

It also amounted to an admission by White House officials that their response to the Oct 3 coup attempt "was poorly coordinated," the newspaper said.

It quoted an unidentified senior White House official as saying the goal of the new guidelines was to make American officials on the scene less inhibited about questioning plotters and giving them guidance on US objectives.

Administration officials have said they feel restrained by the Senate Intelligence Committee from even talking to coup plotters, the paper said.

A report in the Washington Post newspaper said Bush had won tentative agreement from committee leaders for more leeway in covert intelligence-gathering activities against Noriega.

The newspaper, quoting congressional and administration sources, said the leaders had agreed with Bush to clarify the rules that Central Intelligence Agency operatives were following that the failed coup exposed "ambiguities" in them.

Panamanian officers who led last week's abortive coup were recruited and paid more than \$1 million by the US government, Noriega charged in an interview published yesterday.

Noriega also claimed that Nicaraguan Contras and Panamanian businessmen delivered money and relayed messages between US officials and coup plotters, the Los Angeles Times and the Boston Globe newspapers reported.

"The United States was involved before, during and after the coup," Noriega said in a joint interview.

Noriega made millions of dollars from his investment in a lab that made steroids for the black market, Mexican authorities said.

The Svea appeals court threw out a split jury conviction in district court for the shooting. Not long after, the 42-year-old Pettersson came home to his apartment at northern Stockholm suburb Rotebro, almost as if nothing had happened.

In Pettersson's trial, Mrs. Palme testified she was "100 per cent" certain that he was the gunman. That unequivocal statement means she could not testify against anyone else accused of the crime, according to legal experts.

Many Swedes contend the investigation was bungled and despair that the assassin will ever be caught.

Pettersson, who has a long record of crimes here including second-degree murder and armed robberies, is an admitted abuser of alcohol and drugs. He carried a bag of liquor and wine bottles.

Pettersson, 42, met reporters today at a chaotic and packed news conference in the tiny office of defence lawyer Arne Liljeros a day after his sudden release.

"Life is full of dangers. If someone wants to kill me, he may do it today, he may do it in ten years," said the 42-year-old self-confessed drug addict and alcoholic.

Pettersson returned to his suburban apartment in Stockholm yesterday after almost ten months in custody. He said he would remain in Sweden and continue living in his own apartment.

"I was born here. How could I start a new life?" he said.

Pettersson told a news conference broadcast live on national television and radio that he had declined police protection or to change his identity and was not afraid of possible reprisal attacks.



Pettersson, followed by reporters, makes his way to a friend's house to celebrate his release.



Pettersson and his lawyer Liljeros (left) all smiles after the court overturned Pettersson's conviction. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Pettersson wins appeal in court

### Sorry for Lisbeth Palme

STOCKHOLM, Oct. 13, (AP) — Hours after a Swedish court overturned Christer Pettersson's conviction in the killing of Prime Minister Olof Palme, Pettersson was drinking liquor and playing cards at his suburban home.

He said he felt sorry for the prime minister's widow, Lisbeth Palme, the chief witness against him.

Palme, a four-term prime minister and prominent international figure active in socialist causes and nuclear disarmament, was shot from behind at close range on Feb 28, 1986, as he walked home from a late movie in downtown Stockholm with his wife.

The Svea appeals court threw out a split jury conviction in district court for the shooting. Not long after, the 42-year-old Pettersson came home to his apartment at northern Stockholm suburb Rotebro, almost as if nothing had happened.

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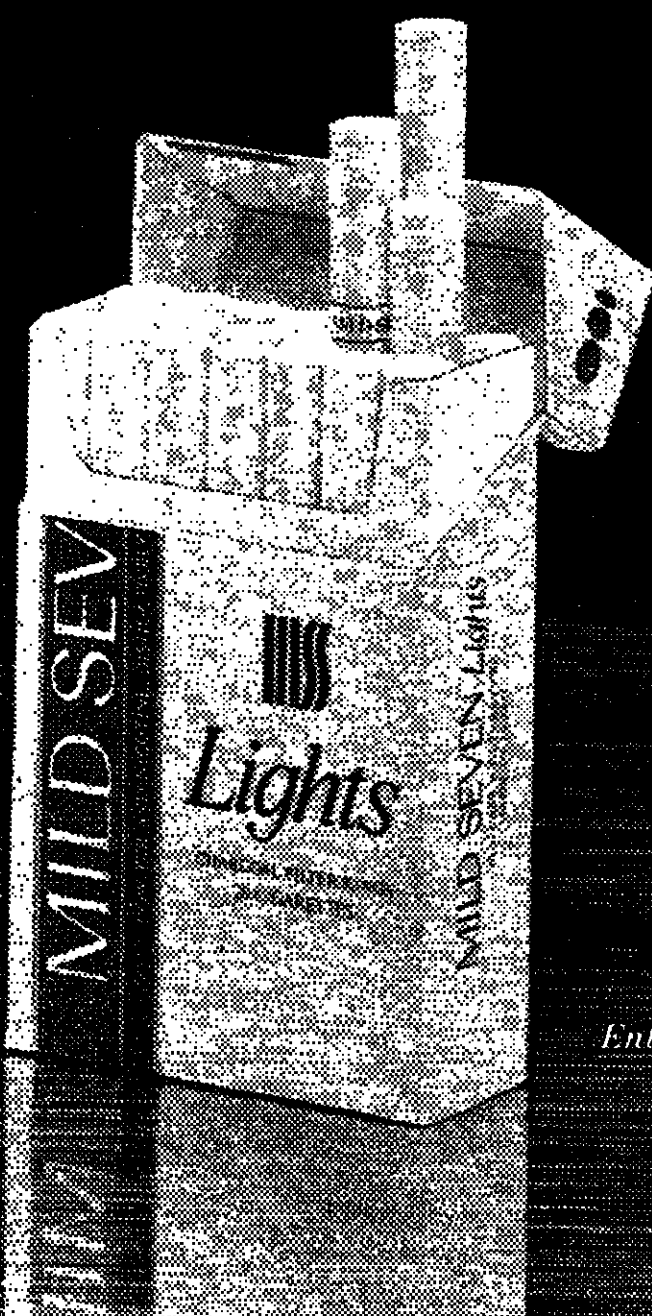
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Arrested

Jose Rafael Abello Silva, a suspected leading Colombian drug trafficker sought for extradition by the US has been arrested in Bogota.

## Escobar calls for truce in drug war

BOGOTA, Oct 13, (UPI): Pablo Escobar Gaviria, reputed kingpin of the infamous Medellin drug cartel, publicly yesterday called for a truce in Colombia's increasingly violent drug wars and offered to negotiate a peace pact.

The offer came as national RCN radio said cartel funded hit squads continued their terror reign, gunning down two undercover government drug agents in the town of Cali and exploding another bomb in Medellin.

The explosion blew out windows in some 30 offices and homes in the area. It appears the bomb went off by accident when it fell out of a taxi. Witnesses said people riding in the vehicle were injured.

In the coastal town of Cali, police said the two murdered agents had escaped previous attempts on their lives. A police report quoted by RCN said the agents who had been on an intelligence mission were gunned down on a public street by two assassins on a motorcycle. They died instantly.

In an open letter to a Bogota newspaper, Escobar, who tops the US list of the 12 most wanted Colombian drug figures, asked for "physical and legal protection for participating in a direct dialogue to seek peace."

The letter, addressed to Juan Pástrana Arango, director of the newspaper La Prensa, asked the publisher to help set up such a dialogue. It was signed by Escobar and carried a print of a right index finger. Police could not immediately confirm that the print was Escobar's. Copies of the letter were sent to other news media.

Pástrana Arango said he refused the role of mediator because he doesn't have "the confidence, approximation or contact" with the parties.

Escobar, 39, said in the letter: "We seek peace through direct dialogue. In the same way that war is declared, peace can also be declared."

"We publicly ask the participation of the government and the public promise of physical and legal guarantees for the participants in a direct dialogue to seek peace."

President Virgilio Barco said in a statement that the government would not negotiate peace with the cocaine cartels and would "continue battling firmly against hitmen... and all those who use attacks and violence either to defend privileges or as a political tool."

Barco's statement was a response to a letter written by Sen. Alvaro Leyva, who questioned whether the government planned to expand last year's peace offer to the cocaine cartels. Barco, whose initiative was aimed at guerrillas fighting the government, said he reserved the right to reject offers from any groups "outside the law," including drug traffickers.

Barco later met with French President Francois Mitterrand, who pledged to send security experts to help in the drug war. "We will fight... the narcotics traffickers, who are destroying the health of everyone and ruining the hopes of young people," Mitterrand said. "It will be a long fight."

Meanwhile, two men wanted in the US on charges of drug trafficking and money laundering were arrested by secret police in Barranquilla, authorities said.

Leonidas Vargas and Manuel Palma Molina are being held for possible extradition to face the US charges, police said.

The Justice Ministry announced it completed the paperwork on the extradition to the United States of Elena Rodriguez Zuniga, held since last week. She is believed involved with the Medellin cartel.

The Colombian government promised strict security measures to protect the embattled daily newspaper El Espectador, the target of murderous attacks by drug lords.

A presidential statement said the government would adopt measures "to protect the free circulation of El Espectador in the country and guarantee the freedom of the press."

It denounced "the acts of terrorism that have affected the distribution of El Espectador."

Drug traffickers have given until today to El Espectador to shut down its office in Medellin, the hub of Colombia's drug trade and home to the cocaine cartel of the same name.

## SA lifts gag on Albertina

### Sisulu in 'Soweto'

JOHANNESBURG, Oct 13, (AP): Police lifted restrictions today on prominent activist Albertina Sisulu in preparation for the release of her husband, Walter, a senior African National Congress official jailed since 1964.

Sisulu, 77, is one of eight political prisoners whose unconditional release was approved by the government Tuesday. He is the most prominent jailed ANC leader after Nelson Mandela, whose release has not yet been approved.

Sisulu and at least four of the other prisoners were flown to Johannesburg's Jan Smuts airport early today from Cape Town, where they had been jailed, airline officials said. They were visited by lawyers later at Diepkloof prison, near Soweto.

Police fired tear gas today at 200 well-wishers and journalists outside the house of Sisulu.

Police in two trucks approached the crowd and fired three or four tear gas canisters, telling dozens of dancing and chanting blacks they were creating unrest and must disperse.

Another of the group, Raymond Mhlaba, reportedly was flown from Cape Town to his hometown, Port Elizabeth.

Mrs Sisulu, speaking to reporters at her home in Soweto, outside Johannesburg, said she received political advice from Mandela on Tuesday, when she and other activists met with him at his prison quarters near Cape Town.

"Now that there are less limitations on my activities, I will be able to push ahead with the suggestions and advice given to me by Mandela," she said without elaborating further.

Anti-apartheid leaders are planning victory marches in 17 cities and towns across the country tomorrow to celebrate the releases, which are expected to take place in intervals over the next few days. Seven of the prisoners are ANC leaders, the other belongs to a smaller black nationalist guerrilla movement, the Pan Africanist Congress.

Mrs Sisulu said she would join the planned march in Johannesburg.

The New Nation, a militant anti-apartheid newspaper, said at least 250,000 people were expected to join the marches. Its front page today was printed in the green, black and gold colours of the outlawed ANC, and it carried pictures of seven of the prisoners under the headline "ANC lives."

Mrs Sisulu, who had been banned from attending meetings and making public statements since

February 1988, said police visited her home in Soweto this morning to say the restrictions were lifted. She said they told her that her husband would be home this weekend.

"I was wondering how I was going to cope in my house if my husband was not restricted and I'm restricted," she said. "I was surprised."

She is co-president of the banned United Democratic Front, a nation-wide anti-apartheid coalition, and said she would resume her political activities.

"If I'm free, really, I must go on with my work in the struggle," she said in an interview with Radio 702, an independent Johannesburg station.

Despite her restrictions, Mrs Sisulu, 71, was issued a short-term passport by the government earlier this year so she could travel abroad with other anti-apartheid leaders. She met US President George Bush, French President Francois Mitterrand and officials of other Western governments.

In addition to Sisulu, four of the other prisoners to be freed were sentenced to life imprisonment along with him and Mandela at the Rivonia treason trial in 1964. They are Raymond Mhlaba, 69, Ahmed Kathrada, 60, Elias Mokoaleli, 65 and Andrew Mlangi, 63.

Also to be freed are ANC leaders Oscar Mphahlele, 80, and Wilton Mkwayi, 67, and Jafsa Masemola, 60, a founding member of the Pan Africanist Congress.

Sisulu was a close friend and colleague of Mandela and, as the ANC's general secretary, was a key strategist for the movement. A senior ANC spokesman said today the guerrilla movement welcomed the decision to release Sisulu and seven others, but urged Western powers to maintain pressure on Pretoria.

Thabo Mbeki, the exiled information chief of the ANC who is on a visit to London, commented on the impending release in an interview with BBC television which showed footage of Mrs Sisulu and her grandchildren repainting their Soweto home in preparation for the release of her husband.

■ A new UN study accuses South Africa of trying to destabilize the black-ruled nations of Southern Africa.

■ South Africa's economic policies and support of rebel movement in Southern African have cost its neighbours over 50 billion dollars in the last nine years, according to a UN report released today.



Preparing to welcome

Albertina Sisulu delightedly tidies her home for the return of her husband Walter Sisulu shown in the portrait, a former leader of the outlawed African National Congress who has been promised release after 26 years in prison. (Reuters wirephoto).

## Castro's brother approved Cuban cocaine overflights

JACKSONVILLE, Florida, Oct 13, (AP): Convicted cocaine drug kingpin Carlos Lehder Rivas got permission to fly cocaine over Cuba in a letter supplied by Fidel Castro's brother and fugitive financier Robert Vesco, a witness claims.

The testimony of Fernando Arenas Ortega, a protected federal witness, came yesterday in the trial of five US citizens charged in a conspiracy to smuggle and distribute cocaine for Lehder, 40, who is serving a life term after being convicted here last year on drug charges.

The case grew out of Lehder's 7-1/2-month-long trial. Lehder has been called one of the architects of

Colombia's violent cocaine-smuggling Medellin cartel.

Arenas testified that at Lehder's request he flew to Cuba in 1984 and was met by Vesco at the airport. He delivered a letter and returned to Nicaragua, where Lehder and other drug lords sought haven after the April 29, 1984, assassination of Colombian Justice Minister Rodrigo Lara Bonilla.

A few days later, Arenas testified, he flew back to Cuba and was met by Vesco and Raul Castro, brother of Cuban President Fidel Castro. They gave him a letter which gave Lehder permission to

pass over Cuba on drug-smuggling flights from Nicaragua to Andros Island in the Bahamas, Arenas said.

Lehder, Pablo Escobar, Gonzalo Rodriguez Gacha and Jorge and Fabio Ochoa each paid the Nicaraguan government \$1 million to be allowed to hide out there, said Arenas, who worked for Lehder in 1984 and 1985. Also hiding out were the five assassins who killed the justice minister.

Arenas testified that while he and Lehder watched, Escobar, Gacha and Seal loaded a plane on June 25, 1984, with 600 kilograms of cocaine at Los Brasiles Air Force Base in Nicaragua.



A group of demonstrators disperse as police wielding batons charge the protesters after they disrupted the Pope's mass Oct 12 (Reuters wirephoto)

## Students ransack US envoy's house

### S.Koreans clash with police in Seoul

SEOUL, Oct 13, (Agencies): Thousands of South Korean students shouting anti-American slogans clashed with riot police today in support of a raid hours earlier by radicals who attacked the US ambassador's residence with home-made bombs.

Witnesses said the protesters burnt US flags and effigies of President Roh Tae-Woo and shouting slogans demanding the South Korean leader cancel a planned visit to Washington next week.

They demanded an end to US trade pressure and accused the Bush administration of helping Roh crush South Korea's democracy movement.

"I did not see any of the action taking place,"

Gregg, 61, was led by guards through a back door to a neighbouring house while the students broke windows and wrecked the living room, about 15 metres (50 feet) from the bedroom.

He dismissed the raid as an isolated incident.

"This in no way affects US-Korea relations. This should in no way influence the way you feel about Korea or being in this country. This is a friendly country," he said.

Calling the attack "an act of a few individuals who try to call attention to themselves," Gregg said he would fly to Washington tomorrow to pave the way for Roh's visit.

South Korean Foreign Minister Choi Ho-Joong issued an apology for the raid while leaders of all four political parties urged students to refrain from violence.

Radical students have condemned Gregg's appointment. The ambassador was posted to South Korea from 1973 to 1975 while working for the US Central Intelligence Agency.

Police said the youths threw tear-gas shells and home-made bombs to divert the attention of police guards and climbed the wall of the residence from the top of their car. They demanded to see the ambassador.

No one was injured when the students burst into the house, a traditional wooden-framed Korean building.

US officials said the attackers diverted police guards by setting off "home-made firecracker-like noise bombs" and, once inside, ransacked the living room, smashing pottery and artwork.

The students, who locked themselves inside the building, held off riot police for 30 minutes before troops firing tear-gas smashed down a door and seized them, police said.

In Newark, New Jersey, White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater told reporters yesterday that President George Bush "just asked if they (the Greggs) were safe and I assured him they were."

Witnesses said the intruders carried four home-made bombs, three tear-gas grenades, iron pipes and wooden clubs.

The United States has recently pressed South Korea to lift restrictions on beef imports, threatening to impose sanctions unless Seoul took action by November.

The clashes ended after about two hours.

Six students earlier hurled tear-gas grenades and set off home-made bombs in a raid on the tightly-guarded home of Ambassador Donald Gregg.

Gregg, who was unhurt, told a news conference he was in his bedroom when he heard explosions and slogans being shouted.

"They got in the front of the house. I think they circulated around the house. I heard voices from various parts of the house," Gregg said.

"There was considerable damage in the living room and we regret that. Some art work and pottery and lamps were destroyed."



'Down with US'

South Korean radical students belonging to a so-called 'Anti-American Crusade' group are hauled away by the police after they invaded the US ambassador's residence to protest US trade pressures on Seoul. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Clash in E. Timor spoils Pope trip

DILI, Indonesia, Oct 13, (AP): Chanting, banner-waving youths opposed to Indonesian rule of East Timor clashed with club-wielding police yesterday in front of the altar as Pope John Paul II was finishing his blessing to a crowd of 10,000.

Dili General Hospital reported four women were admitted after being crushed in the surging crowd.

There were no reports of arrests. Police confiscated the film of some photographers.

Hurling chairs and shouting "Long live independence" and "Long live the Pope," about 20 youths unfurled a banner in front of the altar.

As the Pope looked on, plainclothes police hit the youths with canes and snatched their banner. The crowd scattered, about another hundred youths came to the aid of their friends, hurling chairs at the police.

The pontiff did not appear to have been endangered. As white-clad priests and seminarians moved quickly to calm the crowd, the Pope was escorted to his car, surrounded closely by Vatican and Indonesian security.

The Pope has urged Indonesia to ensure protection of the human rights of the people of East Timor, a Portuguese territory that Indonesia annexed in 1976.

The local church and Amnesty International allege that violations persist, including mass arrests, torture and "disappearances."

The protesters, supporters of Fretilin, the pro-independence movement fighting Indonesian troops since East Timor's annexation, got to within 30 metres (100 feet) of the steps of the altar where the Pope stood watching.

Girl scouts, who had been acting as ushers in front of the altar, wept as they were caught up in the melee. The incident lasted about 15 minutes.

Meanwhile, Pope today urged Roman Catholics in Indonesia today to be bold in proclaiming their faith, despite the country's majority Muslim population.

About 100,000 people attended the Pope's final mass in Indonesia, which was held amid lush coffee and palm oil plantations in north Sumatra.

Later, the Pope spoke with the country's 42 bishops in Jakarta. He was to depart tomorrow morning for a visit to the Indian Ocean island nation of Mauritius.

The pontiff's four-hour stop on the island was billed as a pastoral visit but ended as a slap against Jakarta's rule, which began when it annexed East Timor in 1976.

Pope also attacked birth control in Indonesia, a Third World pioneer in restricting population growth.

■ Independence protests during Pope's mass in East Timor will have no effect on Indonesian plans to pull troops out of the disputed territory, a well-placed military source said today.

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# World News Roundup



## New look

Former US president Reagan sports his new crew cut at a meeting with Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney at Reagan's Century City office. Reagan's hair is short because of a recently undergone surgery. (Reuter wirephoto)

## Iran suspected

### Cover-up of US air crash

NEW YORK, Oct 13. (Reuters) A US television report says the true cause of a plane crash in Newfoundland nearly four years ago that killed 248 US servicemen may have been covered up and suggests the crash could be linked to Iran.

The report on ABC's "20/20" news show says the network has uncovered evidence that the crash of the Arrow Air DC-8 at Gander, Newfoundland on Dec 12, 1985 — the worst in US military history — was caused by a fire that was possibly preceded by an explosion.

An official Canadian investigation concluded that the crash was caused by ice on the wings.

In a news release issued yesterday, the network said it has found witnesses who say there was no ice on the wings and adds they saw the plane burst into flames before crashing.

ABC also cites claims made by the Islamic Jihad underground guerrilla group taking responsibility for the crash.



**Winners**  
The American-Arab anti-discrimination committee said in a statement that it had failed in private talks to get Spencer Gifts Incorporated, to voluntarily withdraw the mask which the committee said ridicules Arabs.  
"The mask is being marketed with traditional 'monster' masks such as devils, skulls and horror film characters, thereby reinforcing the notion that the mere fact of being an Arab is 'scary'."

## Halloween mask Arab protest

WASHINGTON, Oct 13. (Reuters) The largest Arab-American organisation in the United States has called for a public protest against a retail chain selling a Halloween mask portraying an Arab man with exaggerated facial features.

The American-Arab anti-discrimination committee said in a statement that it had failed in private talks to get Spencer Gifts Incorporated, to voluntarily withdraw the mask which the committee said ridicules Arabs.

"The mask is being marketed with traditional 'monster' masks such as devils, skulls and horror film characters, thereby reinforcing the notion that the mere fact of being an Arab is 'scary'."

## America

**Ozone depletion:** Depletion of ozone in the stratosphere over the South Pole has equalled the record level that scientists found in 1987, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration reported on Thursday.

Scientists at the Goddard Space Flight Centre in Greenbelt, Maryland, said that satellite measurements show that ozone density over the Antarctic has declined by about 45 per cent since early August, a drop of about 1.5 per cent a day.

Arin Krueger, Richard Stolarski and Mary Schoeberl, scientists monitoring the south polar ozone levels, said the ozone depletion recorded Oct 5 matched the record low measured in 1987. (AP)

**Flag-burning ban:** President George Bush said on Friday he would allow a newly approved ban on flag-burning to become law without his signature, but added that it was "not the ultimate answer" and that he would continue to press for a constitutional amendment.

During an appearance in the White House briefing room, the President said he was withholding his signature from the congressional legislation "to signal our belief that a constitutional amendment is the best way to provide lasting protection for the flag."

Bush commented on the flag legislation in a brief opening statement before responding to questions on other issues. (AP)

**13 die violently in NY:** A Baptist minister shot to death in his church was among 13 people who died violently in New York during a 24-hour period that ended early Thursday, city police said.

Crime statistics released later the same day showed the city was close to equalling or breaking last year's record, when 1,896 people were slain.

There were 1,019 homicides committed in the city during the first seven months of the year. In the first seven months of 1988, 1030 people were slain. (AP)

**Faulty space shuttle computer:** Technicians laboured in the cramped quarters of space shuttle Atlantis' engine compartment to replace a flawed computer in time for a Tuesday launch of the shuttle and the Jupiter-bound Galileo probe.

National Aeronautics and Space Agency officials said they planned to remove the old engine computer on Friday and replace it with a spare.

With work progressing well, officials said on Thursday they had good cause for keeping on track if the new computer tests out properly.

The task of replacing the 230-pound (104 kilogram), \$6-million computer began soon after the countdown was halted on Tuesday because the device gave a false pressure reading. The launch had been set for Thursday. (AP)

**Cheney lauds star wars:** Defence Secretary Dick Cheney says that he's encouraged by advances in the "brilliant pebble" component of Star Wars, but that he would recommend President George Bush veto the military budget unless Congress increases funding for the programme.

Cheney, locked in negotiations with Congress in an attempt to stave off cuts in the programme's billion-dollar budget, acknowledged on Thursday that he's got a tough battle ahead.

"We've got to convince people that it's necessary," Cheney said of the Strategic Defence Initiative, a proposed space-based missile-defence system nicknamed Star Wars.

House and Senate negotiators working on the Defence Department's budget for the 1990 fiscal year that began Oct 1 are at loggerheads over the programme. (AP)

**Computer sale to Soviets:** The United States is asking Italy to investigate allegations that an Italian company violated Western export control rules and sold the Soviet Union computer equipment used to manufacture a highly sophisticated jet fighter.

The US allegations against the Olivetti company, which officials say is based on intelligence information, was brought up on Wednesday at a White House meeting between President George Bush and Italian President Francesco Cossiga.

The president did mention the concern about the Olivetti case. And President Cossiga stressed that this was being pursued in a highly co-operative manner, said Assistant Secretary of State Raymond Seitz, briefing reporters about Cossiga's talks with Bush. (AP)

**Call for reform:** J.P. Kelly, the United States delegate to the executive committee session of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) on Wednesday called for significant reform at the UNHCR headquarters and the field level to cope with the current financial crisis.

Kelly, who is the acting deputy assistant secretary for international assistance and relief bureau for refugee programmes of the US Department of State, enumerated a number of steps while talking on the subject of administrative and financial measures. The United States is the single largest contributor to the UNHCR budget.

Among the measures outlined by Kelly were improved staffing procedures, more efficient distribution of food and other supplies for refugees and judicious automation to increase efficiency. (Kuna)

**US debate on executions:** With more than 260 convicted killers waiting on "death row" and predictions of its first execution in nearly a quarter of a century, California is moving into the spotlight of America's endless debate on the death penalty.

On Friday, a coalition civil-rights groups plans to start a 10-day march from the steps of the state Capitol in Sacramento to San Quentin prison near San Francisco in hopes of rallying public support against capital punishment.

A coalition calling itself the "death penalty focus" and supported by such groups as Amnesty International, the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People (NAACP) is organising the 120-mile (200-km) march. (Reuters)

**Congress votes to liberalise abortion:** Congress on Wednesday narrowly approved liberalised abortion regulations for the poor, and the Florida legislature rejected 10 anti-abortion measures as the issue became the focus of several political campaigns.

By a vote of 212-207, the lower house of Congress accepted a measure that would have Medicaid — the national health-care funding system for the needy, aged and disabled — pay for abortions when the mother's life is in jeopardy or when the pregnancy resulted from rape or incest. The measure already has been approved by the Senate.

Previous restrictions allowed a Medicaid-financed abortion only when a woman's life is threatened by her pregnancy. (AP)

## Tight security

### Queen for Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 13. (AP) Queen Elizabeth II of Britain was expected to arrive today for a state visit to Malaysia coinciding with the 46-nation Commonwealth summit, her spokesman said today.

Meanwhile, Inspector General of Police Hamid Omar said that more than 6,000 police would be on duty to protect the leaders attending the summit.

Haniff, Malaysia's highest ranking police officer, told reporters 6,506 police have been trained to handle "any incident" during the Oct 18-24 summit.

He said the training included a special course for 15 officers in the United States and training by British bomb disposal experts in Malaysia.

Queen Elizabeth was scheduled to arrive on the royal yacht Britannia at Port Klang, 30 kilometres (18 miles) west of Kuala Lumpur, for the visit to this former British colony, press secretary Robin Janvin told reporters.



**Getting on top**  
The Princess of Wales climbs up to the bridge of the British frigate HMS Cornwall in Plymouth Harbour. The princess was on an official visit aboard the ship. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Homage to Chapman

### Foot of flower

MAIDSTONE, England, Oct 13. (AP) The surviving members of Monty Python's flying circus sent flowers in the shape of a giant foot to Graham Chapman's funeral today.

"To Graham from the other five Pythons with all our love. P.S. stop us if we're getting too silly," said a note attached to the flowers, modeled on the foot that dropped down with a rude noise to end the team's television shows.

The message recalled Chapman's appearances as a stiff-backed colonel who barged in to end sketches that had become "too silly."

Services for Chapman, who died Oct 4 at age 48, were held at Vinters park crematorium, with close friends and family attending.

"Not many of us take the opportunity to express our convictions in the way that Graham did and he specialised in a brand of humour which satirised pomposity," said the Rev. Tony Porter, chaplain at Maidstone hospital where Chapman died.



**U-238 dealer**  
Derek Smith from Leeds, England (right) talks with the Greek lawyer Nicos Galeas outside an Athens court. Smith was arrested for trying to sell 25 kg (55 pounds) of uranium 238 to a nuclear research centre in the outskirts of Athens. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Turkey decides

### Participates

ANKARA, Oct 13. (Reuters) Turkey, which said earlier it would boycott a European security meeting in Bulgaria, has now agreed to send a low-level delegation, the Foreign Ministry said today.

Ankara said in August it would stay away from the talks in Sofia from Oct 16 to Nov 3 in protest what it says is Bulgaria's campaign to assimilate its ethnic Turkish minority forcibly.

"It has been decided to send a low-level delegation to the opening sessions of the environmental talks of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE) and to assess developments as the talks progress," a ministry statement said.

## Europe

**Hysterectomy:** A new procedure which could replace many of the 20,000 hysterectomy operations done each year in Britain has been successfully carried out on 25 women, British doctors said today.

Instead of the major operation of removing the womb for women suffering excessive bleeding, they described a method of cutting away endometrium, the lining of the cavity which is the source of the bleeding, without removing the entire uterus.

The operation is normally carried out under general anaesthetic, but doctors from John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford, southern England, said it can be done with local anaesthetic so that patients can be discharged within a few hours. (Kuna)

**Aids figures:** Nearly five people in the UK every day are infected with the Aids virus, according to official figures.

The department of health's quarterly Aids figures show 11,218 people were reported HIV antibody positive between the start of the epidemic and the end of last September.

That is 424 more than the 10,794 HIV antibody positive reports notified up to the end of last June and means that about 140 new people are infected every month, or nearly five every day. (Kuna)

**Breakthrough:** Surgeons scored a breakthrough when they used a revolutionary tiny drill to clear dangerous cholesterol from a patient's heart arteries, it was reported in London today.

The machine completely unblocked the blood vessels, bringing instant relief to the angina sufferer, who was conscious throughout the 45-minute operation.

The drill, developed in a West German clinic, could save thousands of pounds and avoid patients having to suffer the pain of open heart surgery.

It is inserted in an artery in the groin and fed to the site with a wire, tracked by X-ray.

Doctors at the Royal Infirmary Hospital in Bristol, south-west England, were the first in Britain to try the operation which at £2,100 is well under half the cost of open-heart surgery. (Kuna)

**Red brigades acquitted:** A Rome court today acquitted 253 reputed Red Brigades terrorists charged with waging an armed insurrection and civil war against the state.

The verdict was announced in the bunker-like courthouse at Rome's Rebibbia prison after four days of deliberations. The trial began on March 1.

The public prosecutor, Nitto Palma, had recommended acquittal, conceding that while the defendants may have planned insurrection and civil war they do not have the practical means to carry them out. (AP)

**No prosecution:** Ireland decided yesterday not to prosecute a controversial Roman Catholic priest wanted in Britain on explosives charges as a suspected IRA guerrilla.

"I have come to the clear conclusion that there is insufficient evidence," Irish director of public prosecutions Eamon Barnes said in giving his decision in the long-running case of Father Patrick Ryan.

In a ruling that is bound to revive a simmering Anglo-Irish controversy, Barnes said he made his decision after studying material sent to him by British police and investigations by Irish police.

**Aids settlement:** A Norwegian couple who contracted the Aids virus after the wife was given a transfusion of contaminated blood won a precedent-setting settlement of 600,000 kroner (\$86,000) this week, reports said yesterday.

Stavanger municipal court on Monday ordered the Ministry of Social Affairs and Rogaland county to pay the settlement to the couple, who were not identified, according to the daily newspaper Dagbladet. (AP)

**Scotch on the rocks:** The owners of a ship wrecked off Scotland in 1941 with 20,300 cases of Scotch Whisky on board said they plan to salvage what's left of the cargo.

Despite the efforts of police and customs officers, most of the cargo was looted by the Hebridean islanders of Eriskay and the neighbouring islands of South Uist and Barra when the Politician was wrecked on rocks off Eriskay.

The ship made Eriskay famous and brought a tourist trade that continues to this day. (AP)

**Vow to fight:** Extreme right-wing deputies led by France's Jean-Marie Le Pen vowed yesterday to fight what they said was an illegal attempt to deny them senior jobs in the European Parliament.

The European right group noisily protested in the Parliament, over a decision by the Parliament's management committee to deny them two posts they would have filled automatically. (Reuters)

## Asia

**Laundering of drug money:** Japan's finance minister told a cabinet meeting on Friday that Japan and the United States will co-operate in efforts to halt the laundering of drug money, officials said.

The Finance Minister, Ryutaro Hashimoto, relayed a letter from US Treasury Secretary James Brady requesting Japanese assistance, said a Finance Ministry official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Brady's deputy, John E. Robson, is in Tokyo with US officials, including trade representative Carla Hills, for trade talks.

"The consultations will take place on many levels," Hashimoto told the cabinet. He said Brady had offered US help in training Japanese personnel in anti-drug-trafficking techniques. (AP)

**Gorbachev will visit Japan:** Soviet Ambassador Nikolai Solovlev confirmed on Friday that Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev will visit Japan on March 1991, sources of the Japan Socialist Party said.

The sources added that the confirmation was made at a meeting between the ambassador and the party leader Takako Doi earlier this morning.

Japan is attaching great importance to the visit, hoping that it would improve bilateral relations through finding a settlement to disputed northern islands seized by the Soviet Union at the end of the World War II. (Kuna)

**Aid to Cambodian resistance:** The United States is stepping up its involvement in the guerrilla war against Cambodia's Vietnam-backed government, resistance and other sources say.

Senior officials of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front said Washington is providing the guerrilla group with satellite photographs on western Cambodia, training its fighters to use sophisticated anti-tank weapons and giving other valuable assistance.

An unusually large number of US officials have been seen along the section of Thai-Cambodian border from which the group launched a major offensive Sept 20.

This follows the avowed withdrawal of all Vietnamese troops from Cambodia last month, leaving Phnom Penh unaided in its fight against the non-communist KPNLF and two other guerrilla groups. (AP)

**Assault on major town:** Khmer Rouge guerrillas on Thursday said they had attacked a factory on the outskirts of Cambodia's second largest town.

Khmer Rouge radio said the guerrillas killed eight members of a Vietnamese battalion in the Oct 3 attack on Battambang, 75 km (50 miles) from the Thai border.

There was no independent confirmation of the report but foreign journalists who visited Battambang factories last month saw only Cambodian militiamen guarding them.



## Bombings scrapped

A North Korean defector claimed Thursday that his country planned a series of bombing attacks at the 1988 summer Olympics in Seoul but that the plan was cancelled because of fear of retaliation.

Suh Yong-Chul, 28, who defected to South Korea in September, told a news conference that six members of the commando unit of which he was a part underwent intensive training to bomb Olympic facilities in Seoul, including the 100,000-person stadium.

The plan was scrapped at the last moment because North Korean leaders feared it would invite a retaliatory attack on a World Youth Festival held in Pyongyang in July of this year.

Suh Yong-Chul demonstrating his marksmanship. (Reuters wirephoto)



## Tackling a bobby

South African workers struggle with the long arm of the British law as they attempt to construct an advertisement at Cape Town airport for holidays in Great Britain. (Reuters wirephoto)

## 35 set alight

### Massacre in Mozambique

MAPUTO, Oct 13. (UPI) Right-wing guerrillas massacred 35 people aboard a privately owned bus in the southern province of Gaza, a day after announcing an offensive to force the government to accept their peace terms, state-run radio reported Thursday.

Radio Mozambique said the bus was attacked on Tuesday between the towns of Chibuto and Manjacaze, 125 miles (200 km) north of Maputo.

It said 35 people were killed, most set alight and burned to death. Several others were seriously injured in the attack, the second in as many days. On Monday, 13 civilians were killed in a raid on the Gaza village of Nwachikolawane and five were injured.

In a statement released in Lisbon on Monday, Renamo guerrillas vowed to launch a sustained offensive that included attacks on power facilities.



## Allegations false

Coloured (mixed race) police officer Gregory Pockman talks to the press outside a Cape Town court shortly after a judge ruled that his allegations of brutality against two riot policemen were unfounded. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Latin America

**UN force:** Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar plans to send a 625-member peace-keeping force to Central America, the first serious test of the regional peace agreement signed in August.

A draft copy of the UN chief's report to the Security Council, obtained on Wednesday by the Associated Press, shows that the force would be a highly border patrol, equipped with jeeps, helicopters and speedboats.

Its mission is to prevent any nation from mounting an attack on its neighbour, to verify that no rebel forces cross borders to launch raids, and to halt any raid or television broadcasts by insurrectionary forces.

Canada, West Germany and Spain will provide personnel for the mission, along with a Latin American contingent. Venezuela has volunteered troops. (AP)

**Mass grave in Bolivia:** Amnesty International, foreign experts and Bolivian congress members began an investigation on Wednesday of the remains of 17 people found buried in a pit at a police rehabilitation farm near the city of Santa Cruz.

The bodies were found on Monday, and officials said it appeared they were dumped in the pit within the last few years.

The rehabilitation and work farm, surrounded by jungle, is 30 miles northeast of Santa Cruz, a city of 400,000 about 420 miles east of the capital of La Paz.

Several detainees at the centre have told the Bolivian human rights association that they were beaten and tortured there. (AP)

**Rebels attack barracks:** Shining Path guerrillas killed one policeman and wounded another in an attack on a train carrying mining ore, and attacked an army barracks and two police posts during a blackout caused by rebel sabotage near this highland city on Thursday, police said.

The rebels attacked the army barracks and police posts located in a northern suburb of Huancayo on Thursday night, sparking an hour-long gun battle. Police said they had no report of casualties in the attacks.

The battles occurred shortly after at least 40 dynamite bombs went off in the downtown area of Huancayo, east of Lima. A police spokesman said the local election board office and the offices of the Huancayo newspaper El Correo were among the targets of the bombings. Government buildings and banks were also attacked.

The attacks took place about 7:30 pm Thursday (0030 GMT Friday) during a blackout caused when the rebels toppled a number of high-tension power pylons in the nearby mountains, police said. (AP)

**Killings condemned:** US TV newsmen Dan Rather, a member of the committee to protect journalists, sent President Virgilio Barco a letter on Wednesday condemning the killings of two employees of Bogota daily El Espectador.

"We are profoundly saddened by attacks in Medellin," Rather wrote in the name of the committee, terming El Espectador as "a paper that has for years courageously campaigned against the illegal drug trade and for years suffered the wrath of drug dealers."

Tuesday afternoon unidentified gunmen shot down the Medellin office manager of El Espectador, Marta Luz Lopez, and in a separate incident, assassins killed Medellin circulation chief Miguel Soler.

A caller claiming to be a member of the cocaine cartel-linked hit squad "the extraditables" took responsibility for the shootings and threatened to kill the rest of the Medellin staff in the paper did not close down operations in Antioquia department. (UPI)

**Drug agent slain:** A Mexican businessman charged with perjury in the investigation into the torture and murder of a drug enforcement agent was released from jail on Wednesday and was set to return to Mexico.

Ruben-Zuno Arce, 59, a prominent businessman and brother-in-law of former Mexican President Luis Echeverria, posted bail after two more people offered property to secure his \$200,000 bail.

Zuno was released on Wednesday afternoon to the custody of the Immigration and Naturalisation Service, which put him on a plane to Mexico.

US district judge Robert M. Takasugi on Tuesday ruled that two houses belonging to acquaintances of Zuno's could be used as bail. (AP)

## Africa

**Major meets Savimbi:** Foreign Secretary John Major met with Jonas Savimbi, leader of the UNITA guerrilla movement, and called for a political settlement in Angola, the British Foreign Office said.

The meeting at the Conservative Party conference was the first time that a senior British official had received Savimbi.

A Foreign Office spokesman said after the 30-minute meeting: "The Foreign Secretary pointed to the opportunity offered by the Namibian settlement and the withdrawal of the Cubans from Angola and pressed the need for a political settlement."

He added that Savimbi assured Major that UNITA was ready for an immediate ceasefire. (AP)

**Hunter gored to death:** A veteran big game hunter was gored to death from behind by an angry elephant, officials said on Thursday. The safety-catch of Alan Lowe's rifle was still engaged when his body was found in the northeast Zimbabwe bush last Friday by a party of hunters he was escorting.

Lowe, a Zimbabwean in his 50s, had ordered the party into their vehicle for safety after disturbing a herd of elephant cows and calves, government wildlife officials said.

Lowe then crept back to see when it would be clear to travel on through the bush. That was the last the other hunters saw of him. (AP)

**Seven miners killed:** A runaway ore carrier killed seven platinum miners in the nominally independent tribal homeland of Bophuthatswana, a company director said on Wednesday.

Director Richard Wagner said the accident at the eastern platinum mine in South Africa occurred on Monday when an ore wagon travelling down an incline went out of control. He gave no further information, but said the government inspector of mines was investigating.

The mine is owned by the British multinational Lonrho. (AP)

**Parliament extends tenure:** Parliament has approved a bill extending by five years the term of government of President Yoweri Museveni, who seized power in 1986 promising the war-torn nation general elections and a new constitution by 1990.



## Change in Eastern Europe hailed

"The torch we lit in Britain which transformed our country... became a beacon that has shed its light across the Iron Curtain into the East. Today that beacon shines more strongly than at any time this century."



British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher blows kisses during a standing ovation after she spoke at the Conservative Party conference. She was also celebrating 10 years in power and her 64th birthday. (Reuter wirephoto)  
**(See Page 25)**

## Fuel still in short supply

The official Tass news agency reported yesterday that rail traffic had resumed in the Transcaucasus region. Two similar reports this month proved unfounded, with the blockade remaining in place and only consignments of rotten food getting through.

■ Waves of incense and slavonic song washed over Uspensky cathedral today as the Russian Orthodox patriarchate held its first service in the Kremlin since 1918.

An embassy official confirmed Smith's version and said the material was sent to Washington DC where it was tested and proved to be of a useless element.

Britain's Foreign Secretary John Major said yesterday that the current changes in Eastern Europe are "dramatic, especially after what we had seen in Hungary, Poland as well as the Soviet Union."

Prices of many food items have increased by as much as 500 per cent since August and the price of butter jumped up by 1,500 per cent.

"The vice premier expressed happiness over the improvement and the development of relations [between New Delhi and Beijing] over the last few months," Seth quoted Wu as saying. "This momentum needs to be maintained and developed."



A protester burns his army draft card during a demonstration attended by 150 people in front of the parliament building. The sign in the background says "down with compulsory military service" (Reuter wirephoto)

## Small parties show signs of free thinking

## Honecker in reform talks

While newspapers remained silent on a wave of westward emigration and bluntly condemned nation-wide pro-reform protests, he called repeatedly for open debate.

Elsewhere, Defence Ministry officials reported 37 other fatalities in bloodshed linked to the JVP insurrection during the 24 hours ending at 6 am today.

Colombo district high court judge Ameer Ismail issued the order yesterday after prosecutor Kanthilal Kumarasiri said the government did not want to proceed with the case.

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**ELECTRONIC APPL. CORP.**



## Wafra police curb liquor, drug smuggling

### Absconders main problem

COLONEL Atallah Farhan, police chief of Wafra, has said that his force has successfully put an end to smuggling in the area.

However, the Wafra police force are having a tough time coping with absconders, who run away from farms and homes, he added.

There are 600 farms, mainly an agricultural and hunting area. It had become a vital point for smuggling liquor and drugs. Illegal residents and infiltrators also sought refuge in the remote farming area. Absconders—maids and labourers—also took refuge in the area.

Mobile check-points and increased

patrols helped bring the problem under control. Farhan said: "All such activities have been curbed, and we have succeeded in putting an end to smuggling."

One common crime has been run-away labourers and maids, who absconded from farms and companies. Employers also complained of runaway maids, who, allegedly, stole money and valuables from their homes.

Infiltrators used Wafra border to enter the country; stricter patrols on the borders have nearly eliminated this problem, he said. Spot checks in remote areas and deserts, which are used for hiding, has

resulted in curbing infiltration, he added. Illegal residents, who hide in such areas, are also caught.

Farhan, who spoke about common crimes in the area, also complained of juvenile delinquents, who, he said, were responsible for most road mishaps. He also blamed the juvenile delinquents for arson, petty quarrels and thefts.

The problems arose due to the presence of several nationalities, from varying cultural backgrounds, he said. "We try our best to cope with the social problems," he said.

The biggest pressure on the police is

during the spring camping season, when most Arabs and Kuwaitis set up camp in such remote areas, particularly near prohibited areas like oil installations. A campaign to avoid camping near vital installations was launched and helped in enhancing security, he said.

The area—Al Zoor, Wafra, Nuwaiseeb and Khairan—is known for its bird life, which is being destroyed by indiscriminate hunting, which is prohibited in the area. Young boys go to the area and hunt pigeons, using unlicensed shotguns.

"We have to confiscate such weapons," he said.

## Conveyor-belt eye surgery

Ship docks on Oct 20

SOVIET eye specialist, Professor Syvatoslav Fyodorov, is to visit the Middle East later this month to oversee the start of the floating hospital project which will be based in Jebel Ali, Dubai.

Professor Fyodorov, the pioneer of conveyor-belt surgery and many eye micro-surgery techniques, is flying into Dubai on October 20. He will join the floating hospital ship, the Petr Pervy, which is due to dock in Jebel Ali on October 18 for a six months stay.

During his three-day stay, the Professor who is general director of the Soviet Research and Technological Complex of Eye Microsurgery, will present his techniques to a gathering of Gulf ophthalmologists.

"Many patients from the Middle East have been coming to Moscow to our clinics for treatment, however there are many more who have not had the opportunity to do so. With the

floating eye hospital we are giving patients local access to our medical techniques," said the professor.

The 10,000 ton Petr Pervy is equipped with a seven-stage computerised diagnostics centre and a multi-station operating theatre. Seven Fyodorov-trained surgeons will be on board to carry out operations using the conveyor-belt method, otherwise known as the automated sight recovery line, developed by the professor.

### Standard

The concept is aimed at minimising operation time and improving surgical standards. It works by splitting the operation into stages with each phase being conducted by a different surgeon. Each surgeon begins his task after he is totally satisfied with the work completed before. Although initially criticised by some as "inhuman", professor Fyodorov claims it raises the operation quality to nearly ten times that of conventional methods and allows a five-fold increase in the number of operations possible.

"At first some people call the system inhumane," said the professor, "but I asked them, is it human to keep patients on waiting lists for years?"

The surgeons on board the Petr Pervy will be able to carry out up to 60 operations every day for disorders such as myopia, glaucoma, cataracts and astigmatism.

The six-year-old vessel has been chartered by an organisation known as Floks (Flot-Ok-Serve), which is a joint venture between the Moscow Eye Clinic and Sovcomflot, a leading Soviet shipping company. It has converted into an eye hospital earlier this year at a cost of US\$12.75m (Dhs 47m).



Professor Syvatoslav Fyodorov

## UAE deputy premier buried

Amir sends cable

ABU DHABI, Oct 13. (AP): Sheikh Hamdan Bin Mohammed Al Nahayan, the deputy prime minister of the United Arab Emirates, was buried yesterday in the presence of his cousin UAE President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan.

The UAE went into seven days of official mourning for Sheikh Hamdan, who died late Wednesday in West Germany where he was undergoing medical treatment that was begun in the United States. Government departments were closed for three days.

Hamdan, in his early 60s, was a member of the Al Nahayan ruling family of Abu Dhabi, the biggest of the UAE's seven emirates. He was buried in Abu Dhabi.

Hamdan, as one of two deputy prime ministers for the federation, usually presided over the UAE weekly cabinet meetings. The other deputy premier is Sheikh Maktoum Bin Rashid, Crown Prince of Dubai, the second largest emirate in the federation.

The death of Hamdan created a standstill in the country for most of the activities, including postponement of a cricket tournament in the emirate of Sharjah, grouping the West Indies, India and Pakistan. The cause of death was not announced.

His Highness the Amir of Kuwait sent a cable of condolences to the UAE president on the passing away of Sheikh Hamdan.

## Kuwait-Poland protocol signed

WARSAW, Oct 13. (Kuna): Kuwait's Minister of Public Works Abdul Rahman Al Houti concluded his official visit to Poland by signing a protocol of co-operation, after talks with Polish Minister of Building and Construction Aleksander Pasyński.

An official information source said that the protocol aims at enhancing ways of co-operation in the economic and housing fields.

The source added that the Kuwaiti minister and his accompanying delegation held talks with senior officials of Polish construction firms on the potential to broaden their presence in the Kuwaiti market.

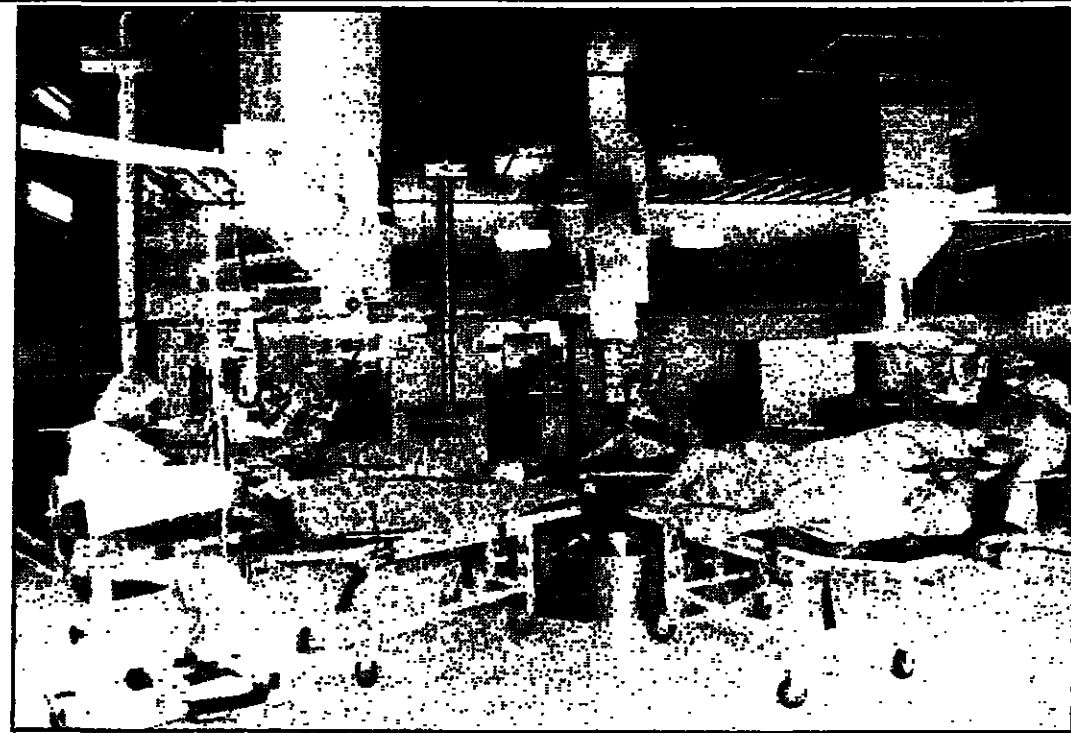
The Kuwaiti delegation has expressed its keen desire to employ more Polish experts in all sectors, the source noted. Pasyński has accepted an invitation to visit Kuwait.

Al Houti had wound up a five-day visit to Poland last night.

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Multi-station operating theatre on board the Petr Pervy.

## Islamic charity donates \$500,000

THE International Islamic Charity organisation has donated \$500,000 toward food-relief in Occupied territories. This was disclosed by Dr Amin Al Agha, chairman of the Palestinian Charity Committee in the IICO.

The project began in September to repressive Israeli measures against the Palestinians. Despite concerted efforts, the Israelis have failed to curb the uprising, he said.

Agha appealed to every Arab and Muslim to contribute funds to meet the basic needs of the Palestinians. He said a minimal contribution of KD per month will greatly enhance relief efforts.

He said those who were interested could ask for a monthly deduction from their salaries. A special form was available from this organisation, which could be used to send in donations, he said.

All donations for the Palestinian cause can be credited to Account No. 15889-9 at the Kuwait Finance House. The money can also be paid directly to officials of the IICO.

Food can also be given. He said food parcels of rice, wheat, flour, sugar, milk powder, beans, beef, cooking oil and tomato paste and other edibles can also be handed over at their office.

He praised Kuwait's role in setting up charities for the Palestinians and also for co-ordinating with UNRWA.

## Ortega arrives

Talks on bilateral ties

KUWAIT, Oct 13. (Kuna): Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega arrives here tomorrow on an official four-day visit.

During his stay, President Ortega will hold talks with HH the Amir on bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest.

Ortega, who was in Qatar yesterday held talks with the Amir, Sheikh Khalifa Bin Hamad Al Thani, and said their views were identical on the subjects tackled.

The talks, according to official statements, concentrated on bolstering ties between Qatar and Nicaragua and discussion of a number of issues, particularly the Palestinian problem.

In his later statements to the state-run Doha Radio, Ortega expressed his country's "full support" for the Palestinian struggle to gain their "legitimate rights". He also expressed special support for the intifada, or the uprising of the Palestinian inhabitants in the Israeli-occupied territories, now in its 23rd month.

Ortega came to Qatar on Wednesday at the start of a three-nation tour of conservative Arab states in the oil-rich region that will also take him to Bahrain from Kuwait.

He was earlier in East Germany and Cyprus and he told the Qatar radio that his visits were aimed at "guaranteeing support of Arab and European states in the peace process in Nicaragua".

Ortega said the problem of the rebels in his country, known as the Contras, "is now considered done away with".

"The United States should sanction that and deal with the Nicaragua government on that basis," he said, in the excerpts of the interview distributed by the Qatar news agency.

## Iraq-Iran peace moves

UNITED NATIONS, Oct 13. (Kuna): UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar met Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed Al Sabah, deputy premier and foreign minister of Kuwait on Wednesday to discuss General Assembly agenda.

The talks focused on the stalemate situation between Iraq and Iran following last year's ceasefire, the situation in the Middle East and Lebanon and the question of Palestine. Sheikh Sabah told Kuna following the meeting which he described as "fruitful".

Sheikh Sabah said Perez de Cuellar informed him he would send his special representative on Iraq and Iran, Jan Eliasson of Sweden, later this month.

Sheikh Sabah also met Eliasson and discussed the ongoing negotiations aimed at finding a lasting peace in the Iraq-Iran conflict.

Sheikh Sabah is expected to deliver a speech late Thursday afternoon before the General Assembly's 44th session.



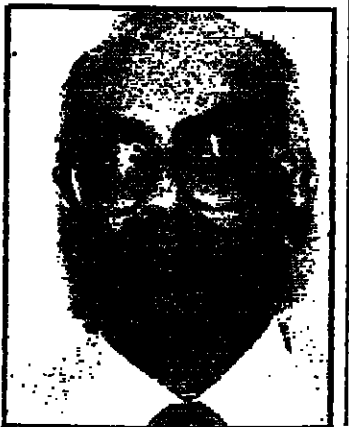
### Reception

THE Indian community in Kuwait on Thursday held a reception in honour of a visiting social scientist, Dr George Mathew.

Dr Mathew, who is director of the Institute of Social Sciences in New Delhi, spoke about socio-political changes in India. He leaves Kuwait on Sunday to attend the international meet on "peace and disarmament", which opens on Oct 15.

The reception was attended by Indian Charge d'Affaires R.S. Mukhiya, Mrs Gracy Mathews, CSS Khanpuri, Dr Rodriguez, Shri John, G.K. Nar and M.C. Bose.

Pictures show (above) view of the gathering, right, Dr George Mathew.



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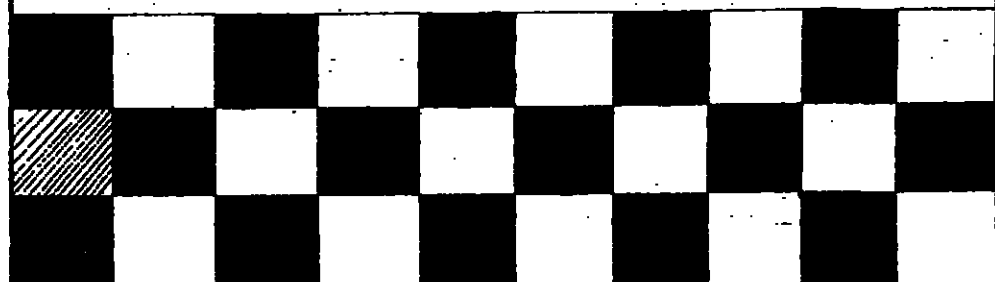
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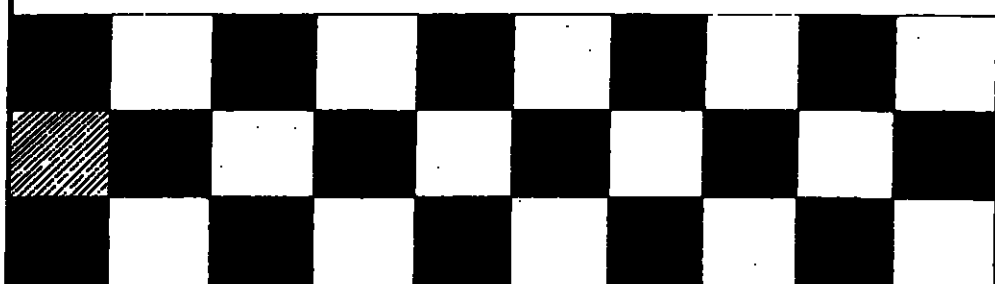
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### RULES

1. There is no entry fee, but all entries must be on separate ARAB TIMES forms and only entries from one competitor may be enclosed in the same envelope.
2. The number of each day's list will be read from left to right with the left hand number being the first of the day. The order then continues to the right. Claimants with one number will have preference over claimants with two or more numbers.
3. All the claimants' entries will be opened at 1 pm on the day claims are made and depending upon the correct clue and all numbers checked being correct, the last number checked off by the claimant will be the criterion for awarding the prizes according to the priority of the number published on that day from left to the right.
4. If there is a tie, the winning name will be drawn from a hat.
5. The decision of the judges is final and no correspondence can be entered into. Employees of the Arab Times and Al-Seyassah Organisation and their families are not eligible to enter.
6. No responsibility can be accepted for delayed or missing entries, or altered or mutilated entries although the date trunked on envelopes will be accepted so long as it is prior to the competition starting date. Envelopes without names, initials on the back, initials in front, and those received after the closing time detailed on this form will be disqualified.
7. No numbers at any time will be told over the telephone.
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Is the initial of your surname in the front of the envelope?

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card and copy card and filled in your name and address, send in your entries, by post, addressed to:

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Arab Times,  
P.O. Box 2270,  
13023 Safat Kuwait.

A surer alternative is to deliver by hand to the Arab Times, Al-Seyassah Building, Airport Road, Shuwaikh.



# 'Weapons or wars' can't solve Lebanon crisis: Jaber



Sheikh Jaber Al Hamad

KUWAIT, Oct. 13, (Kuna): Kuwait's Minister of Information Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamad said the Lebanese problem cannot be solved through "weapons or wars," a fact that has been proven by 14 years of violence.

"There is no way for a decisive end to the Lebanese crisis except to respond to the call of reason and wisdom, making way for public interest before self-interest, and working for a comprehensive national unity," he stressed in an interview with the

## Reason and sincerity needed

Qatari paper Al Raya.

"What is needed now is an openness and sincerity by all parties and a follow up on the steps of the plan prepared by the tripartite committee which I think will put an end to the bloody tragedy," Sheikh Mubarak asserted.

Asked about the latest developments in the Arab-Israeli conflict, the minister attacked Israel, describing her as being "intransigent and haughty."

"Any peace initiative, regardless of its source, cannot be suc-

cessful under Israeli haughtiness and intransigence," he told the paper.

"The problem in my opinion lies in the Israeli behaviour and when Israel abandons this behaviour, its aggressive tendencies and its empty and baseless claims, a solution for the Palestinian problem will not be a miracle," he said.

### Coverage

Asked to comment on the press coverage of the Palestinian intifada, he emphasized that intifada news occupies "not a

bad place" in the Arab press, but noted that Israel is the party to be blamed for the lack of better coverage.

"If sometimes the coverage is quick and not detailed, it is because of Israel's strict blackout imposed by the suppressive Israeli authorities," Sheikh Mubarak commented.

On another issue, the minister said that the Arab media must set "a common media strategy" enabling them to carry out their duties as best they can.

Gulf media, he added, had laid

"clear communication policies" setting priorities in coverage of events and signing "a media charter of honour."

Explaining further the nature of the charter, the Kuwaiti official noted that the charter was signed by the heads of states of the Gulf Co-operation Council in 1986, emphasising the role of the media, the necessity for the media to stress principles and values of Islam, and the need to provide the audiences with balanced coverage feeding their minds and hearts.

## New Philippine envoy coming soon

THE new Philippine Ambassador to Kuwait, Mauryag Tamano, is expected to arrive by month end, according to an embassy press release.

In the meantime, preparations have begun to move the embassy to its new premises in Jabriya by October end, it said.

Last week, the members of the Philippine embassy, headed Charge d'Affairs Olivia V. Palala and the trade assistant, Gil Herico, together with members of the Filipino community, opened the Philippine booth called "Tatak-Pinoy Pavilion" at TEC's Grand Summer Festival at the Messilah Family Beach Resort. The Philippine booth is open to the public every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday until November 3, Friday.

The preparatory committee for Hatid-Saya '89 has decided to hold the two shows of Hatid-Saya at the Kuwait Regency Palace's Grand Ballroom. Ticket prices will remain the same.

The preparatory committee has also decided to ban all video cameras from the show. Anybody bringing a video camera on the day of the show will be banned from entry, his camera confiscated, and his ticket refunded.

Tickets are now being printed and will be available for distribution within the week.

Final line-up of the musical comic talents of Hatid-Saya '89 is: Bert Marcelo, Dulce, Nova Villa, Ricky Belmonte, Sheryl Cruz, Romeo Vargas, Renato Gomez and Jeffrey Coronel, Rey Valera, Timmy Cruz and Dina Bonnevie are still being considered.

Hatid-Saya is on November 12, 1989, Sunday.

More announcements will be made later on where tickets will be available.



Spanish Day

Spanish Ambassador to Kuwait Juan Jose Arbolí hosted a reception on the occasion of his country's National Day. A large number of diplomats and senior Kuwaiti officials attended. Above: Arbolí (second right) pictured with a guest.

## Kuwait lauds global detente

(Continued from Page 1)

"All the Arab countries have blessed and supported the resolutions of the PNC and the new line of Palestinian leadership," as a result the Palestinian position has turned into an Arab one that searches once again for peace and puts forward an integrated plan based on justice and international legitimacy and the relevant UN resolutions," he said.

Turning to Lebanon, he urged the world community to back the tripartite Arab high committee and help it succeed bring about national reconciliation there.

But he warned the question of Lebanon cannot be settled so long as Israel continues to occupy part of its territories, interfere in its internal affairs and keep on transgressing its sovereignty and the inviolability of its soil.

"The international community has to compel Israel to implement the various Security Council resolutions on the complete withdrawal from Lebanese territory with no strings attached," Sheikh Sabah said.

"Without that withdrawal the cycle of violence will continue to afflict this country and abort the success of every sincere effort on its behalf," he said.

Discussing the world economic situation, Sheikh Sabah said the atmosphere of international detente could easily be upset if the gap between rich and poor countries widens further and world debt is growing while prices of raw materials are falling.

The debt problem, Sheikh Sabah said, poses the most severe and pressing obstacle and requires urgent and comprehensive solutions that take into account the human suffering which afflicts peoples of those countries.

He recalled the historic initiative announced by HH the Amir of Kuwait at the UN a year ago with the aim of alleviating the debt burden of the developing countries.

This, Kuwait hopes, will extricate these countries from the cycle of crises and launch a new phase of international economic relations that are more just and equitable, Sheikh Sabah said.

An appropriate mechanism to set in motion the implementation of the Kuwaiti debt plan was proposed by the Amir in Belgrade last December before the non-aligned summit.

The Kuwaiti foreign minister called upon the UN to study the Amir's proposal.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Cables

KUWAIT, Oct. 13, (Kuna): His Highness the Amir sent a cable of congratulations to the King of Spain on the occasion of his country's national day.

His Highness also sent a similar cable to the President of Guinea on the occasion of his country's national day.

KUWAIT, Oct. 13, (Kuna): His Highness the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Salem Al Sabah sent a cable of congratulations to the Prime Minister of Spain Felipe Gonzalez on the occasion of his country's national day.

### Art studios

The National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters will open six painting studios for children on Oct. 21. This was disclosed by the technical committee, now preparing for its opening.

Students of all schools will be allowed free use of the studios.

### Environment

KUWAIT'S Planning Minister Abdul Rahman Al Awadhi will take part in the Arab conference on the environment, which will be held in Cairo from Oct. 16 to 19. He will be accompanied by Assistant Undersecretary Mariam Al Awadi and the secretary of the Environment Protection Council Ibrahim Al Hadi.

### Bishara visit

MUSCAT, Oct. 13, (Kuna): Secretary-general of the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) Abdullah Yakoub Bishara left here Thursday at the end of a two-day visit to Oman.

Radio Muscat said that Bishara has met with top Omani officials on preparations for the 10th summit conference of the GCC which will be held here late this year.

### Smooth sailing

CAIRO, Oct. 13, (Reuters): A Panamanian ship carrying a cargo of live Australian sheep rejected by Saudi Arabia sailed through the Suez Canal today after Egyptian experts decided they were not diseased.

A canal authority spokesman said the 6,988-tonne El Cordero was allowed through after lengthy veterinary tests showed the sheep were healthy. He said the livestock carrier, with more than 8,800 head of sheep aboard, was heading for Italy.

Western diplomats said an Italian company had bought the sheep.

The consignment was part of more than 200,000 head of sheep which Saudi Arabia had rejected in August, saying the beasts had blue tongue and sheep pox, the canal said.

Australia denied these diseases were present in its commercial flocks.

### Al Rashed returns

KUWAIT, Oct. 12, (Kuna): Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs, Rashed Al Rashed, who is also chairman of the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters, returned here Thursday from Rabat.

Al Rashed represented Kuwait in the Morocco-hosted meetings of Arab culture ministers or their representatives.

### In Moscow

MOSCOW, Oct. 13, (Kuna): Undersecretary of Kuwait's Ministry of Higher Education Dr Musaed Al Haroun met here Thursday with the Rector of Moscow University Anatoly Lognov to discuss ways of co-operation between Moscow university and the Kuwaiti Higher Education ministry.

Dr Haroun arrived here on Tuesday on a short visit to the Soviet Union to inspect the cultural mission at the Kuwaiti embassy here and to get acquainted with the conditions of Kuwaiti students studying here.

Haroun will also meet with the deputy chairman of the Soviet committee for higher education and will visit a number of Soviet scientific institutions.

Dr Haroun is accompanied by the Director of Scholarships Department at the Higher Education Ministry Abdullah Jassem Al Sana.



Governor's visit

Farwaniya Governor Sheikh Ahmad Al Homoud recently inspected the new premises of the governorate; he saw the lay-out of the various sections of the building and held talks with engineers and technicians who worked on the project.

## KPTC begins bus trips to Kingdom

KUWAIT'S Public Transport Company (KPTC) will begin the operation of its first group of modern buses by transporting Muslims visiting the holy places in Saudi Arabia later this year.

This was disclosed here by Essam Al Rifai, assistant managing director of KPTC. He said that the company would operate 16 trips between October and next April. On an average, two trips will be undertaken each month, he said.

KPTC has received the first group of ten specially designed Volvo buses with modern facilities like television and video sets, water coolers and comfortable seats.

## CRIME FILE

### Divorce frame-up

KUWAIT'S Court of Higher Appeal upheld the sentence of 5 years imprisonment with hard labour issued by the Criminal Court on a husband and a pledge of good conduct of one year on the wife for conspiracy to rape an airhostess.

The Criminal Court, which originally heard the case, was told that the wife invited her beautiful airhostess friend to her home and tried to convince her that her husband was interested in her and wished to make love to her. However, the victim refused.

The husband encouraged by his wife's cajoling the victim, embraced the lady and tried to kiss her, but was repulsed and the incident reported to the police station by the victim who charged the husband and wife as conspiring to rape her.

The two accused appealed the original sentence to the Court of Higher Appeal and submitted a letter that the airhostess conceded her rights and wanted to drop the charges. But in court, the airhostess said that she only dropped her personal rights, adding that she had learnt that the wife had arranged the plot to get a divorce from her husband.

While the husband was behind bars, the wife lodged a case in the Court of Personal Status asking for a divorce as her husband, who was jailed, was not with her for over three years. The court granted the divorce.

The husband appealed to the Court of Higher Appeal claiming that his wife had all alone planned the scene so that she could get a divorce and the court should foil her attempt. He added that his imprisonment had been reduced to half because of an Amiri pardon.

However, the court upheld the divorce judgement saying that any wife whose husband is jailed for over three years has the right to divorce.

### Compromised

A HOUSEMAID and her paramour were sentenced to two months imprisonment with hard labour and deportation for having illicit sexual relations.

The maid's employer told the court that when she left her bedroom, she found the front door of the living room open and saw the maid and the man in a compromising position.

The two accused confessed that they had been having illicit relations for a period of two months.

### Cheated

KUWAIT'S Criminal Court sentenced a man to three years imprisonment with hard labour for deceiving 27 persons into paying him money for bringing them maids and labourers.

The convict had placed several advertisements in local dailies claiming to have a recruitment office. However, he decamped after he had collected substantial sums. The sentence was passed in absentia.

### Up in smoke

THE Criminal Court sentenced a maid to three years in jail with hard labour on charges of arson and theft and to another month in jail with hard labour for illegally staying in the country.

The court heard that the defendant's employer returned from work at 12 noon and could not get into the flat as he never carried a key to the door, relying on the maid.

But, when he saw smoke seeping from under the door and the maid failing to let him in, he managed to climb up to the balcony and dashed into the house.

### Smuggled

KUWAIT'S Criminal Court sentenced a man to 20 months imprisonment with hard labour, KD205 fine and deportation after completing his prison term.

The man was arrested by customs officials for attempting to smuggle 10.2 grammes of hashish in his shirt pocket. The convict claimed that the contraband was not his and must have been put there without his knowledge.



## Of moods and melodies

The well-known Indian music group, Moods and Melody, enthralled the audience with a selection of Hindi, Malayalam, Telugu and Tamil film hits.

The show, which attracted a big crowd, was one of many organised by the group since its formation some years ago.

Songs like "Rama-o-Rama", "Sankara", "Tere Mere Sapne", and many other popular

numbers. Captivating the audience were vocalists John, Girja, Babychen, Rajasekhara, Vineetha, Bashir, Meraj Khan and Agha Kamal belted out numerous melodies to satisfy the audience. They were backed by the Moods and Melody orchestra. Its members are Antony Joseph, Prakash, Bejoy, Iqbal Ahmed, Sugunari, Joshi, Chandran, Saituddin, Kitchy, Kumardas, Sukumar.

## Action Line

I CAME to Kuwait in April 1979 on No. 20 visa. After completing my two years contract with my first sponsor, I transferred to a construction company, which provided me with No. 18 visa. I worked with them from June 1981 to October 1987. I was given a termination letter on Oct 10, 1987, saying my services would end on Nov 1, 1987. Now my problem is that my indemnity has not been paid so far. Please tell me how to calculate all my benefits.

A.T.  
BY the law you are entitled to receive 15 days' salary for each year for the first five years and one month's salary for the subsequent years. You did not say whether you have already lodged a complaint case to claim the indemnity benefits.

According to Article 96 of the Labour Law, private sector, stipulates that any cases filed by the labourers in accordance with the labour rules will be heard in a summary manner. It further states that "Such cases may not be heard after a lapse of one year after the expiry date of the relevant contract." So, if you have not already started legal proceedings, you cannot take them up now as your contract ended more than a year ago.

I HAVE been working as a secretary since 1983 on article No. 18 visa in the private sector. In January '89, I resigned and since April, I have been working in a semi-government organisation. I requested them to change my residence to their establishment and I was told that according to the new residence rules, transfer of residence from the private to the government sector is not permitted. Kindly advise as I still continue to work there.

R.R. D'Silva  
IT IS true that your residence permit cannot be transferred from the private sector to the government. If your company still wants to employ you, they must give you a fresh work permit. For this, you'll have to cancel your present visa and leave the country.

It is not advisable to continue working for a company other than your sponsor as you are violating the immigration and labour rules. Immigration rules stipulate deportation of people whose papers are not in order. It is a serious matter and you must take immediate action to regularise your stay in the country.

I AM a domestic helper, working in Kuwait since last year. The first time I saw my madame, I did not feel comfortable with her and the family. After a few months of my service, I asked my employer that I want to return to my country as the family is not nice to me even though I work 14 hours a day without any rest. But my employer said he will allow me to go if I repay the KD 300 he spent to bring me here. Can I just pay half the amount? I asked. He asked: "Can I finish one and a half year of my contract?"

Is there any law regarding this matter? If he lets me pay half the amount, what shall I do? I really want to go now because I can't stand it anymore.

Farida M.  
DOMESTIC helpers are not covered by the Labour Law. And as such there is no law regarding the matter. The dispute has to be settled between you and your employer.

It is natural for anyone to get his money's worth. As he has spent KD 300 to bring you here, he expects you to work for at least two years.

It would be advisable to look for another job. And if your employer agrees, he can give you the release to work for the new family, which can settle the matter of money with your employer.

Another alternative would be to talk to your employer and his wife to give you some time off each week so that you can take rest. If you try to understand their problems, they may respond by being kinder to you.

I AM working as a maid under the sponsorship of a diplomat in one of the foreign embassies here. I not only work in his house but from time to time I'm asked to clean the embassy premises. This is not right; as I understand, their government pays sufficient money for staff employment at the embassy. Since my employer lives on the first floor of the embassy, I'm asked to serve visitors during the day in his office. I don't feel comfortable in my job.

Do I have the right to get my one way plane ticket in cash after one year service with him? Can I complain to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs about decreasing my salary without any reason? Do I have the right to collect my 13th month pay plus the amount deducted from my salary? Am I eligible to take a month's vacation after one year's service?

Babaz  
AS you must be aware, domestic helpers' maids are not covered by Kuwait's labour law. In your case, as in the case of all maids, an agreement between an employer and an employee is taken into account while settling disputes, regardless of whether it is a verbal or a written agreement.

The answer to all your questions depends on whether such an agreement was made at the time of recruitment. If you asked for a month's vacation each year, then you have the right to get it. If you did not, you must abide by the agreement that you made, whatever it is.

If you agreed to work at the reduced salary, you have to accept it. Moreover, as you do not come under the Labour Law, you cannot approach the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs does not deal with the employment of labour.

If you continue to work for him, you can collect your 13th month pay.

You must discuss the matter of getting cash in lieu of an air ticket with your employer. If he agrees, he'll give it to you. If you want to go on a vacation, your employer must agree to your absence for a month. As there is no law for the employment of maids, there is no legal recourse.

I HAVE a dependent visa No. 22, sponsored by my son. My residence is valid for two years. Presently my son is not in Kuwait and intends to stay out, which means his residence will be automatically cancelled after six months overstay. I'm still living here with my daughter-in-law and grandchild. Will the cancellation of his visa affect mine? Will my residence be automatically cancelled or will it remain in effect? I'm planning to leave Kuwait within the next two years but until then, do I need to find a new sponsor? If so, could my daughter-in-law sponsor me?

Mrs. C.F.  
IF your son leaves the country, and his residence is cancelled due to overstay, you will be affected. As he is your sponsor, your residence will also be automatically cancelled. To keep your papers in order, it's advisable to apply for a transfer of residence to a new sponsor at the immigration department. If your daughter-in-law can sponsor you, you can seek a transfer to her sponsorship. You may have to get a release from your son for the transfer of residence.

Can you provide us with the International Subscriber Dialling (ISD) for Bangladesh and different cities in Bangladesh.

A reader.

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Bogra	00-880	51
Chandpur	00-880	841
Chittagong	00-880	31
Comilla	00-880	81
Cox's Bazar	00-880	341
Dhaka	00-880	2
Dinajpur	00-880	531
Faridpur	00-880	631
Gaibandha	00-880	541
Jamalpur	00-880	981
Jessore	00-880	421
Kushia	00-880	71
Magura	00-880	451
Moulavi	00-880	861
Rajshahi	00-880	721
Rangamati	00-880	351
Rangpur	00-880	521
Shantahar	00-880	741
Sherbur	00-880	552
Sylhet	00-880	821
Tangail	00-880	921

If you have a problem of any kind and need advice drop in a line to: Action Line, Arab Times, P.O. Box 2270, 13023 Safat, Kuwait. Or fax your questions to us on Tel: 4847495.

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# ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

WHEN you are arguing with a fool, two fools are arguing — Anonymous.

## Battle for autonomy

### Baltics show the way

RADICAL national groups from across the Soviet Union are flocking to the Baltic republics, drawn by a vision of democracy.

The powerful popular fronts of Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia have pioneered the weapons in the battle for greater autonomy from Moscow — from sophisticated communications gear to symbolic protests and grassroots organising.

And the region provides a haven safe from the general antagonism and odd police raid, practised by some local authorities elsewhere.

"The Baltics seem to be lighting the way for the other groups," said a Western diplomat who has close contact with the region. "Moscow must be concerned by this new network."

In the latest step on the Baltic circuit, representatives of more than 10 independent national groups from the Ukraine to Central Asia — attended the recent second congress of the Latvian Popular Front in the capital Riga.

They heard a spirited two-day session approve an ambitious blueprint for an independent, multi-party Latvian nation free of nuclear weapons and foreign troops.

The Baltic popular fronts have captured the imagination of the native populations, largely displacing the Communist Party as the leading political and social force across the region.

Many party members, including leading officials, have forged close ties to the fronts at the risk of displeasing Moscow.

Front-backed candidates — including party members — to the revamped Soviet parliament last spring won stunning victories in Estonia and Lithuania, and performed strongly in Latvia, which has the largest ethnic Russian population of the three.

Since then the fronts have largely set the political agenda for the region. All three plan active campaigns in the next local elections with an eye to taking over the republican parliaments and legislating their way to autonomy — or even independence.

On a more symbolic level, the three mass movements mobilised more than one million people on Aug 23 in a human chain linking their capitals to protest against the secret 1939 Nazi-Soviet pact that wiped them off the political map as independent states.

Some of the visiting representatives to the recent Latvian Front Congress came for inspiration and advice. Some sought the latest computer and communications technology.

Others came in search of vital newsprint.

"We knew we have a lot to learn from the Baltic groups," said Valery Buivol of the nascent Byelorussian group "Vozrozhdenie" — or Renaissance.

"Their struggle is our struggle, their victories are our victories," said Buivol, who is polishing up his Latvian language skills as the group's official liaison with the Riga-based front.

"They (the Baltics) were the first and we can learn a lot from their successes and their failures," Buivol said.

Other "Vozrozhdenie" representatives are assigned to Estonia and Lithuania, where the Byelorussians held their founding conference after local officials refused permission for the meeting at home.

Georgian Popular Front official Avtandil Imnadze said he had more immediate matters in mind.

"Of course, it's very nice to come to these meetings and show support. But when this is all over, we are going to look for paper. Our (front) newspaper has not appeared in two months."

Proven organisational skills, an educated workforce and democratic traditions dating back to their pre-war independence have given the three Baltic republics special prestige in the eyes of progressive Soviet forces.

So have their extensive overseas contacts, primarily with influential émigré communities in Canada, the United States and Australia and their Scandinavian neighbours.

The overseas Baltics have been a big source of both political and technical support, supplying everything from copying machines to home computers.

Azerbaijani activists speak glowingly of facsimile machines brought through this Baltic pipeline from the West, glancing over their shoulder to ensure the rival Armenians do not get too far ahead on the strength of their own large émigré community.

"We do not have any one shipping in computers. We have trouble finding enough typewriters," admitted one member of the Azerbaijani Popular Front. "We are not like these Armenians, with all their high-level contacts in Washington and Paris."

All this has not gone unnoticed at the other end of the political spectrum.

More and more the pro-Soviet immigrant communities in the ethnic republics are copying the methods of the popular fronts, rallying support by industrial workers in the biggest Soviet republic, the Russian Federation.

The United Front of Workers of Russia was formed in early September in the Siberian city of Novosibirsk to back Russian-speaking groups in the Baltic republics and to try to put the brakes on economic reform.

Representatives of the anti-Ku Klux Klan Interfront and Interdivizhenic movements from Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia and Tadzhikistan also attended the conference, which drew 110 delegates from 29 industrial centres.

But it remains unclear how much the Russian immigrant communities in the ethnic republics support these movements.

Many Russians intermarried with locals; they, too, hope to benefit from the Latvian Popular Front's ambitious economic reform programme (Riga, Soviet Press).

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## Middle East peace talks US hands and elbows get dirty

SLOWLY, somewhat against its will, the United States is being dragged centre stage in efforts to draw Israelis and Palestinians around a negotiating table to talk about Middle East peace.

"The Middle East was not high on the (President George Bush's) administration's agenda. The last thing it wanted was to get dragged into that briar patch," said Geoffrey Kemp, a senior associate with the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, a private concern.

"But both Israel and Egypt are pushing for Washington to do more, though each has very different expectations, and the focus has switched back to the administration," he said.

One Middle Eastern diplomat put it more bluntly — "the administration didn't want to get its hands dirty on the Middle East, but now they are in there up to the elbows."

The event which flushed the administration out into the open was last week's rejection by Israel's inner cabinet of an Egyptian blueprint designed to pave the way for Palestinian elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Secretary of State James Baker had endorsed Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's 10-point plan which he said fleshed out and did not contradict an original four-point election proposal from Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

But Shamir's right-wing Likud Party, senior part-

ner in the fractured and fractious Israeli coalition, has demanded a veto over members of the Palestinian delegation with which it would negotiate the terms of the election.

Officials said Likud ministers wanted to exclude supporters of the Palestine Liberation Organisation or at least minimise the PLO's influence.

Faced with stalemate, Baker had intensive telephone consultations with the foreign ministers of Egypt and Israel and put together a five-point document which officials describe as a further gloss on the Shamir and Mubarak initiatives.

According to Israel radio, the points merely reiterated that Egypt would consult Palestinians on the composition of the Palestinian delegation but would not speak on their behalf while Israel would attend the talks only if it was satisfied with the composition of the Palestinian delegation.

The fifth point, to be implemented after the first four were agreed, would involve a meeting of the three foreign ministers in Washington.

Administration officials took pains to emphasise that the five points did not constitute a "Baker plan" to set alongside the Shamir and Mubarak plans.

"It's not a plan, it's not a proposal — it's just points," said State Department spokesman Margaret Tutwiler.

But the paper was immediately condemned by

right-wing Israeli ministers as a US ploy to put pressure on Israel. Three right-wing ministers rallied several hundred supporters in Tel Aviv to protest against the "Baker plan."

According to John Hannah, deputy director of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, Baker was anxious to avoid the mistake of his predecessor George Shultz by linking his personal prestige too closely to the success or failure of the efforts.

"The sense is that the time is still not ripe for a full-blown American initiative because, then, everyone could sit back and take shots at it," he said.

"The administration assumes that there will be a bloc inside the Likud opposed to anything and everything but it is banking on the hope that Shamir can still carry something through," he said.

Officials said Baker was still working on his five points with Israel and Egypt and that both countries had raised concerns about them.

Kemp said he expected the Washington meeting of foreign ministers to go ahead but would be surprised if anything substantive emerged from it.

"The administration has to approach Israel now with a mixture of carrots and sticks. Israel must be made aware that its support is slipping within the US Congress and that concessions are now called for on its part," he said.

(Washington — Reuters).

## 'Why stay armed to the teeth'

### Cold war is receding

CHANGES in Eastern Europe encouraged by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev are forcing Western leaders to consider a more political and less military role for the 40-year-old Nato alliance.

If the cold war is receding, why stay armed to the teeth, glaring at the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact across a divided Europe? Isn't it time to bring some of the 305,000 American troops home?

Manfred Woerner, the former West German defence minister who is Nato's secretary-general, considered those sorts of questions Thursday in an appearance in Washington before the Atlantic Council of the United States.

His advice is a nutshell: Nato should keep its guard up. But also it should play more of a political role and hasten the union of West European countries.

As for the American troops, their future depends on the outcome of negotiations in Vienna and on the wishes of President George Bush and Congress.

Bush has proposed a 10 per cent cutback as part of a deal with the Warsaw Pact that would force even deeper reductions on the Eastern side. Western negotiators are awaiting Moscow's reply.

When Nato was created, Western leaders were convinced the Red Army would sweep across the European continent unless hundreds of thousands of troops, armed with nuclear weapons, artillery and tanks stood in their way.

Although Nato has never been tested in a war, it's become a cliché to affirm solemnly that the alliance has kept the peace for 40 years.

But is the cold war over?

Woerner does not think so, although he concluded "clearly we are at the end of the post-war period" and that 16 Nato allies should take a fresh look at the European landscape.

Fifty-thousand young East Germans have fled to the West in recent weeks. The Hungarian Communist Party has dissolved itself and reconstituted as a Western-style Socialist Party. Poland is being governed by its first non-communist-led cabinet since the war.

"The communist system is failing, clearly failing," Woerner concluded.

Gorbachev is testing Nato with arms control proposals even as he consents to political and economic change within the Warsaw Pact nations.

The people in Western Europe are responding with calls for disarmament, although Woerner cited polls that show 70 to 80 per cent are in favour of maintaining the Nato alliance.

In December, the North Atlantic Council will meet to consider reshaping Nato's mission. No revolutionary changes are contemplated, but Woerner hopes the alliance should assume a more political role with the goal of accelerating trends towards a united Europe — and not lower its guard.

"Even in a landscape of political change," he said, "we need the solid and sound defence. Turmoil is in the air every time there is change. The potential is still there."

If Gorbachev fails to reconstruct the Soviet system, Woerner said, "someone could look to a military solution for their problems. You need a



Manfred Woerner: political role

solid base for your own security."

The Nato official predicted both Nato and the Warsaw Pact would have a new look in the 1990s, with "much lower levels of armaments" and striking

a defence posture on both sides.

Still, he acknowledged that persuading the people of Western Europe requires salesmanship. (Washington — AP)

## Asmara booms despite drought

THE CIVIL war has dragged on for longer than most people can remember and drought has devastated the surrounding countryside, but the economy of Ethiopia's second largest city is booming.

"Cement costs twice the official price on the black market, but lots of people are putting up new buildings," one resident of Asmara, capital of Ethiopia's northern province of Eritrea, told Reuters.

The shops are full of imported goods unseen in the capital Addis Ababa. Visitors from other parts of Ethiopia stock up on matches, which are in short supply elsewhere in this East African country.

Although severe drought is likely to make half of Eritrea's three million people dependent on food aid next year, business in his elegant city of tree-lined avenues and Italian villas has never been better.

Private businessmen once shunned by Ethiopia's pro-Soviet government are now officially encouraged to expand their factories and open new ones. Many are rising to the challenge.

Ironically, the civil war which has sapped Eritrea's rural economy for the past 28 years is largely responsible for the current boom in Asmara.

Tens of thousands of young men have fled abroad to escape political persecution, limited economic opportunities and conscription by the Ethiopian Army or the rebel Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF).

From their new homes in Italy, which ruled Eritrea as a colony from 1889 to 1941, and the Arab Gulf states, they send money home.

Not all is transferred through legal channels. Smuggling is rife and foreign earnings are often remitted in the form of goods.

Some imports are shipped legally through the "francovaluta" system, whereby the importer

provides his own foreign exchange, no questions asked, and some arrive illegally on dhows from Saudi Arabia and North Yemen across the Red Sea.

Asked how he obtained his packets of Kenyan tea and Indian henna dye, an Asmara shopkeeper smiled and replied: "That is the secret of business."

His wares need a market and most Eritreans are peasant farmers with little or no spare cash to buy consumer goods.

But one third of the Ethiopian Army is stationed in Eritrea — more than 100,000 troops according to diplomatic estimates — and their wages provide a valuable cash input to the local economy.

"We got a contract to provide bread for the Army and they paid on time. It was great," the owner of one local bakery told Reuters.

The Army is fighting the EPLF, a rebel movement seeking independence for Eritrea, or at the very least, restoration of the autonomy which it enjoyed in the 1950s.

Following a series of government defeats over the past two years, which gave the EPLF control of all of northern and western Eritrea, there are more troops in Eritrea than ever.

There was an influx of soldiers from the Eastern Ogaden region after Ethiopia signed a peace agreement with Somalia in April 1988 to defuse a long-running border dispute.

Last March, more troops came from neighbouring Tigray province after it was overrun by another rebel movement, the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF).

Trucks full of soldiers armed with AK-47 automatic rifles patrol the main roads linking those towns still held by the government, while others watch the traffic from bunkers on nearby hillsides.

Most troops ride in olive green military trucks provided by Ethiopia's main ally, the Soviet Union, but many fill the backs of red-painted Italian trucks requisitioned from private traders under President Mengistu Haile Mariam's maxim: "everything to the war front."

The front itself has been remarkably quiet for the last six months, with the EPLF reporting isolated skirmishes in southern Eritrea and the government odd attacks on road transport.

Diplomats attribute the lull to a peace initiative launched by Mengistu last May, following a coup attempt by several top military commanders.

The coup leaders, who briefly seized control of Asmara radio station and airport, said they wanted a negotiated end to the civil war in the north and the formation of a new broadly-based government including opposition forces.

Two weeks after their uprising was crushed, Mengistu offered unconditional peace talks with the rebels in the presence of an independent observer.

A first round of talks between the government and EPLF took place in the US city of Atlanta, Georgia, last month and a second round is due to start in Nairobi, Kenya, on Nov 18.

Diplomats say separate talks between the government and EPLF are likely to start soon in Rome following informal mediation by the Roman Catholic Church.

Meanwhile, off-duty soldiers soak up beer in Asmara's many bars and stroll down National Avenue eyeing the imported Japanese radios and Italian clothes in shop windows.

Asked how many soldiers had been deployed in Eritrea, Afework Berhane, the mayor of Asmara, told Reuters: "Enough to keep us busy."

## Terror in Colombia

THE latest developments in the dirty war waged by drug traffickers in Colombia against the institutions of that country confirm that the audacity of criminals knows no bounds. It suggests, too, that drug merchants will not hesitate to extend the range of their victims — up to now limited to authorities and journalists who dare combat them — in their effort to bring the Colombian government to its knees and oblige it to stop enforcing the law.

The terrorist arrogance of the drug trafficking cartels showed itself in an especially brazen way last Tuesday. In the space of just a few hours, two persons on the staff of the newspaper El Espectador of the drug cartels. The by-gone men of the service of the drug cartels. The bodies of the victims were still lying in the streets when the drug traffickers delivered their threat to assassinate employees and executives of El Espectador if it did not close its plant there (in Medellin City) and withdraw its staff within 72 hours.

The terror claimed by the drug cartels on the Colombian press has no parallel in the history of the continent. The dictatorships and authoritarian regimes that afflicted Latin American nations for so many decades always made independent journalists priority targets.

But not even the most freedom-hating governments have tried to institutionalize the systematic extermination of journalists who defend laws and institutions as Colombia's criminals are trying to do.

The threat hanging over Medellin, the latest chapter in a long history of terror that includes the brutal executions of journalists, military judges, a justice minister and a candidate for the presidency, strengthens the suspicion that the drug-traffic cartels have managed to infiltrate institutions in Colombia to terrible effect.

Despite the efforts of President Virgilio Barco, the truth is that none of the chiefs of the murderous cartels is in jail and subject to extradition, the legal threat that promoted the drug traffickers to unleash the current wave of terrorism in Colombia.

As ever the impunity of the criminals can only be explained by the fact that their circle of friends include men in strategic positions of power in the government, police and even the armed forces.

Sadly for the American continent, Colombia is not the only country in which press freedom is suffering a variety of restrictions. That same Tuesday, the wife and son of Luis Fuentes, assistant city editor of El Diario de Hoy of El Salvador, were shot at in the streets of the capital. Neither in Panama nor in Cuba is there any room for independent journalists.

As reports from the various countries represented at the IAPA general assembly, which opened Monday in Monterrey, Mexico, show, the Americas seen as a whole are far from enjoying the high level of civilization, and there is no civilization without free press achieved in other regions of the globe.

That distance may be increased even more if the Colombian drug traffickers continue acting outside the law, a situation that transforms the drama taking place in Medellin into a cause of concern for the whole continent. The drug business involves a whole host of criminals throughout virtually the entire hemisphere.

The drug traffickers' ultimate aim is to neutralize the state — by seizing power of making government officials their cohorts, as in Panama, to thwart reaction by healthy part of society.

Following the somber examples set by their likes in Medellin and Cali who act against a background of omission or impotence on the part of the Colombian government, gangs of murderers in other nations will feel tempted to copy their methods. That is why it is vital to immediately halt the advance of the cartels.

What is at stake in Medellin at this moment is not just freedom of the press. It is freedom itself. (UPI).

## Quote me

"I think this has shaken her more than (other books recounting King's alleged adultery) mainly because that uncle Ralph and he's been a dear friend and confidante all his life." — Benjamin Hooks, head of the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People, condemning a book alleging Martin Luther King Jr was a womaniser and how upset his widow is about the book.

"Now that there are less limitations on my activities, I will be able to push ahead with the suggestions and advice given to me by Mandela." — Mrs Sisulu said after visiting Nelson Mandela at his prison quarters near Cape Town.

"It wasn't meant to injure anybody. I wanted to put it into perspective, but some people didn't like it, I just wanted to show Martin Luther King was human." — Rev. Ralph Abernathy expressing surprise at a furor he created by alleging in an autobiography that King was a womaniser.

"I was worried I soon wouldn't have enough money to continue on the tour, but this win changes all that. Now I can continue for the next couple of years." — Lars Wahlgren of Sweden after stunning Slobodan Zivjovicovic of Yugoslavia and earning a career-high pay-cheque of \$19,875.

"It's hard to play another Swedish guy. Sometimes it's difficult to get that fighting spirit." — Wahlgren on his next match with Johan Anderson, with whose family he's putting up in Sydney for the tournament.

"I wasn't beaten by a better player, I was beaten by a luckier player." — Slobodan Zivjovicovic being unapologetically after his defeat.

"I'm getting better and better, stronger and stronger. I have to feel confident." — Anderson on his next match with Wahlgren of Sweden.

"All inflation is painful. So is reducing it. Today, inflation is 7.6 per cent. For a Conservative government that's far too high. We must get it down again. And we will." — British PM Margaret Thatcher on the need to tone down inflation.

"The torch we lit in Britain which transformed our country...became a beacon that has shed its light across the Iron Curtain into the East. Today that beacon shines more strongly than at any time in this century." — Margaret Thatcher claiming they showed the East bloc the way to free market economy.

"What happened in Russia in 1917 wasn't a revolution. It was a coup d'état. The true revolution is what is happening in Russia and Eastern Europe today." — Thatcher condemning the 1917 Russian revolution.



# Housing gripe led to defection

## Uproar in Israel over security lapse

TEL AVIV, Oct. 13. (Agencies): A Syrian Air Force pilot who defected to Israel in a Mig-23 fighter said today the Israelis had no prior knowledge that he was coming.

Major Mohammed Bassem Adel, 33, was speaking at a news conference held under heavy security at an army base near Tel Aviv. It was apparently staged to quash speculation that he was a long-term Israeli agent.

The Israeli press called for a reappraisal of Israel's air defences after Adel's defection on Wednesday, saying it raised questions why Israeli warplanes did not intercept him.

Adel, still wearing an olive green Syrian flight suit with a major's insignia, said he had turned off his plane's electronic instruments in an effort to indicate he had no hostile intent.



Shamir

"It was a very difficult mission because the part of the border where I crossed was spread full of missiles," he said through an Israeli interpreter.

He said he did not know where he was going in Israel and would have tried to land on a road had he not spotted the small civilian airstrip near Megiddo where he came down.

The Israeli newspaper Davar earlier quoted Adel as telling an Israeli aircraft mechanic that he decided to defect after Syrian secret police broke his ribs last year when he requested decent housing.

But he told the news conference that he decided many years ago to leave Syria and planned his move several months ago. He said he had acted alone in breaking away during a training flight.

"I acted out of the conviction that Israel was a free, democratic society. It was not a political decision but one based on my personal feelings as a human being," he said.

"I knew that as a single aircraft, I did not pose a threat to a country that had confidence in itself. I knew that as a democratic society, Israel would take time to evaluate the situation before it acted."

Adel declined to answer questions about politics or his family. Israeli security men would not let journalists film or photograph him or record his voice.

He said there was no need for him to meet a representative of the International Committee of the Red Cross since he came to Israel of his own free will.

Syria, which said he made an emergency landing because of engine trouble, has asked the Red Cross to arrange for his return.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said yesterday the failure of Israel's air defences to detect a Syrian Mig-23 jet flown by a defector into northern Israel is under investigation, appealing to his countrymen to keep calm and trust the military.

The seven minutes that the Syrian pilot spent over Israel before landing caused a public uproar over possible flaws along one of Israel's most sophisticated defence lines.

Chief of Staff Lt Gen. Dan

Shomron appointed an investigative team to probe the flight, the army command said in a communique. The investigators will examine control, anti-aircraft and command operations and submit conclusions by Monday, it said.

The team is headed by Brig. Gen. Herzl Budinger of the air force and includes an air base commander with the rank of colonel, Israel radio said.

It was not clear whether the team was empowered to recommend any action against individuals who may have failed in their duties. Shamir, asked if officials should bear personal responsibility for the failure, said the question should be referred to the defence establishment.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin learned about the flight only after it landed and viewed the matter as "grave," army radio and the Hadashot daily reported.

Shamir, speaking to high school students in Raanana, said:

"Let's not turn an event that should be joyful into something that causes arguments and worries. First of all, this is a good event. It's good for Israel that such an important, significant, valuable plane... abandoned Syria and came to us."

"It's good, it is important, it weakens the enemy and strengthens us," he said.

# Five jailed for plotting to kill Aoun

NICOSIA, Oct. 13. (Reuters): A Cypriot court sentenced a six-member Lebanese assassination team to up to eight years in prison today for smuggling arms into Cyprus.

The six had told the court they had planned to shoot down a helicopter carrying Lebanese Christian army chief Michel Aoun when he transited through Larnaca airport in Cyprus.

The prosecution however had charged them with illegal possession and transportation of arms, which carries a stiffer sentence, and demanded maximum 20-year terms.

All pleaded guilty on Monday to smuggling two Sam-7 anti-aircraft missiles, Kalashnikov rifles, ammunition and grenades into Cyprus in May for their assassination bid.

The missiles were spotted by chance by amateur drivers in the sea just off Larnaca airport.

Five of the accused, Imad Salman Al Khafaji, Emile Alam Eldin Ghazali, Teofic Wadie Al Ahaari, Idriss Jamal Jaber and Roustom Najib Serhan received eight-year terms.

The judge sentenced the sixth man, Wadih Selim Salameh, to five years "due to his mental health."

"We came here to die and we do not care even if we get 20 years," one of the accused said as he was taken from the court.

Judge Frikos Nicolaides said in assessing the sentences the court had taken into account Lebanon's political problems due to its 14-year civil war.

"We do not doubt that the accused consider themselves patriots and their actions a patriotic duty," Nicolaides said.

"We are also certain that their opponents, who follow the opposite course in the country, are characterised by similar feelings of patriotism."

Cyprus has been the scene of several attacks in recent years as the various Middle East conflicts spilled over onto the East Mediterranean holiday island.

A Lebanese member of the Islamic Jihad movement was sentenced to 15 years in prison last year for his part in the abortive car-bomb attack aimed at the Israeli embassy in Nicosia. Three people were killed in central Nicosia.

## Israelis kill 4 in a day of violence

OCCUPIED Jerusalem, Oct. 13. (Agencies): Israeli forces killed four Palestinians in the occupied territories on a day of heightened violence in which 18 others were wounded, including a three-year-old whose skull was shattered, Arab and army reports said.

The shrapnel-riddled body of another Palestinian was taken to Ramallah hospital in the West Bank yesterday, Israel Radio said he was apparently killed while preparing a bomb.

Nabza Mabruka, 35, was found huddled to death in an alley in the Nablus central market, Arab reporters said she was killed because she was prostitute. Israel Radio described her as a collaborator with the Israelis.

Military spokesmen said an Israeli patrol encountered Palestinians in south Lebanon before dawn yesterday and fired, killing one. Army radio said the two other commanders in the group escaped.

Much of yesterday's violence occurred in Nablus, a West Bank town that has been a centre of rebellion during the 22-month-old uprising against Israeli occupation.

Arab journalists reported many confrontations between Palestinians and soldiers. Hospital officials said 13 Arabs from Nablus and nearby refugee camps were treated for gunshot wounds.

Border police patrolling Jenin refugee camp fatally shot a 20-year-old man who tried to hurl a cement block down on them, the army said.

In the Gaza Strip, army gunfire reportedly killed one Palestinian and wounded five. Doctors at Shifa hospital said three-year-old Atyyah El-Chaurani of Shafa refugee camp was hit in the head by a rubber bullet that shattered his skull.

Army spokesmen said the child was taken to Tel Hashomer hospital near Tel Aviv in critical condition and circumstances of the shooting were being investigated.

The encounter in South Lebanon took place in Israel's self-declared security zone, near Markaba, a village 1 and 1-2 miles (2.4 kilometres) north of the border, the army said.

A British diplomat demanded an inquiry into a report that Israeli troops shot dead a Palestinian while his hands were raised in surrender but the army responded by showing Israeli television a collection of arms captured from Arabs in Nablus.

Consul-General Ivan Callan, Britain's top diplomat in the occupied territories, called for an investigation after visiting Nablus and speaking to an eyewitness who said troops on Monday shot dead Arab student Nidal Al-Habash after he surrendered.

"I heard her account from the place where she saw the event and it seemed to me to be a credible account. There is cause for serious concern... this deserves to be investigated," he said.

The army denied the report and said a preliminary investigation showed troops had behaved correctly.

In an apparent move to soften criticism of the Habash incident and the growing number of fatal shootings, the army showed Israeli television a collection of arms and paraphernalia gear it says it seized from Nablus residents.

A member of the PLO executive committee said yesterday that no one but the PLO can form a Palestinian delegation to negotiate with Israel.

Abu Mazen said that any suggestions for Palestinian-Israeli peace talks would be unacceptable unless they meet five conditions:

■ The PLO is the only party authorised to form the Palestinian delegation, to announce it and speak on its name.

■ The agenda should be open without prior conditions.

■ The Palestinian side remains attached to the Palestinian peace initiative based on international legitimacy and reserves the right to debate it.

■ The meeting will be considered a preparatory dialogue and a step forward towards an international peace conference as a framework for final negotiations for a global solution.

■ The best for the presence, at the proposed meeting, of representatives of the five permanent members of the Security Council, of the United Nations secretary-general, Egypt and Sweden.



King Hussein

Likud responsible for stalemate

## Hussein: Israel holding up peace

OTTAWA, Oct. 13. (AP): Political paralysis in Israel is holding up Middle East peace, King Hussein of Jordan said.

"The one remaining obstacle to a just peace is Israel's inability to reach a decision on the future of the Arab territories that it has occupied by force for over 20 years," the king told MPs. Senators and other dignitaries gathered in the House of Commons.

"Unable to achieve more than the lowest common denominator of political consensus, the Israeli government tries to mire the peace process in debates over modalities and procedures..." Hussein said.

Hussein, who is the first Arab leader to address a joint session of Parliament, is considered a moderate Arab leader and a key to any resolution of the Palestinian issue.

In a speech delivered in a quiet monotone, Hussein blamed the stalled peace process on Shamir's hardline Likud coalition. Without naming Likud, he accused Shamir's party of wanting to hold on to the occupied territories permanently.

"At present, one half of the Israeli governing coalition favours a territorial compromise," said Hussein. "The other half looks for ways to fulfil its avowed pledge to annex the territories."

The uprising by 1.4 million Palestinians on the West Bank and Gaza spurred Shamir into proposing elections for the Palestinians.

But Hussein called the process leading to Shamir's proposals convoluted.

Hussein welcomed Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's 10-point peace plan as complementary to Shamir's plan. A land-for-peace swap is included among Mubarak's ideas.

"It is not an alternative plan nor is it a set of preconditions for dialogue," Hussein said of the Mubarak proposals. "The peace plan, as approved by the Israeli government in May, called for Egypt's assistance and the 10 points have come in the spirit of the proposed process."

Hussein called the ceasefire in Lebanon encouraging, but urged all sides to turn it into a permanent peace.

While introducing the king, Prime Minister Brian Mulroney praised his political courage and called for self-determination for the Palestinians. He also reiterated Canada's support for Israel.

Earlier in the day, Mulroney announced that Canada will provide \$17.5 million in new economic and development assistance for Jordan.

## Ship sinks in Arabian Sea

### 10 rescued, 2 missing

LONDON, Oct. 13. (Agencies): A merchant ship capsized in the Arabian Sea off Oman on Wednesday and a British destroyer rescued 10 of the 12 crewmen on board, the Ministry of Defence said.

The Royal Navy destroyer HMS Manchester was continuing a search for the two missing crew members, believed trapped in the upturned hull of the 500-ton cargo ship, said a ministry spokesman, who by custom was not identified.

The ship, the Al Mawarid, was bound from Dubai to Aden with a cargo of timber, the spokesman said. The Ministry of Defence initially said it apparently capsized when the cargo shifted suddenly but the spokesman said later the circumstances were unclear.

The families of eight Indian sailors were clamouring for the identity of two who were still missing after their cargo vessel capsized in the Arabian Sea, the owners said.

Two of the crew members were missing and were believed trapped in the upturned hull of the vessel.

Sebastian Mukattu at the company headquarters in Dubai said there had been eight Indians and four Iranians aboard the vessel.

All the Iranians were accounted for but only six Indians were aboard the Manchester and the British destroyer had not given their names to any party, he said. Attempts to reach it by radiotelephone had failed, Mukattu said.

"We do not know which two are missing, and families of the

Indians who were aboard have been swamping us with calls from everywhere, and some come here, weeping, for news," he said.

The survivors were not expected to reach Dubai till late tonight or tomorrow, he said.

Mukattu said he had no clue as to why the vessel capsized.

The Manchester had rushed to help the UAE-flagged vessel when it picked its distress signal, rescuing the 10 sailors and searching for the missing two.

An Omani Navy patrol boat, the SNV Al-Fulk, sailed to the scene yesterday to help in the search for the missing crewmen and to check whether the sunken freighter was a navigational hazard.

HMS Manchester is part of the UK's Armilla patrol navy escort force in the Gulf.

A spokesman for the British Defence Ministry, who is not named according to standing custom, said that among those rescued were the vessel's captain and the first officer.

He said the officer of the watch on the Manchester spotted wreckage in the water and closer inspection by the captain, Cmdr Paul Stone, revealed that there were survivors.

The sun was setting and the ship moved quickly to rescue them.

Six crewmen scrambled up a net thrown over the side of the Manchester and two were recovered shortly afterwards when they were spotted clinging to pieces of wood, the spokesman said.

### MIDEAST BRIEFS

**Vaezi to visit Paris:** Iran and France, at loggerheads for years over terrorism and a commercial dispute involving billions of dollars, will hold high-level talks at the end of October in Paris, officials said on Friday.

Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Mahmoud Vaezi and France's senior Paris-based diplomat, Francois Scheer will head the delegation. The dates of the meetings, aimed at repairing relations, have not been announced. (Reuters)

**Journalists to set up union:** Several hundred Algerian journalists met today to organise the country's first independent journalists' union and push for greater press freedom.

The two-day conference of the Algerian journalists' movement is the latest challenge to a 27-year monopoly by the ruling National Liberation Front (FLN) over political and professional life. (Reuters)

**Call for economic freedom:** Algeria's Social Democratic Party the first opposition group to be legalised in 27 years, opened its first congress on Thursday with a call for economic freedom.

"We must free the economic process from all constraints," said party president Abdelrahmane Adjrid, addressing more than 1,000 delegations from all of Algeria's 48 districts. (Reuters)

**Tribes to fight:** The government is to arm most feudal tribes in southeast Turkey to help fight an escalating Kurdish insurgency, officials and tribal lords said.

They said the army in September offered weapons to Kurdish tribes in mountainous Van province, which until this year was largely unscathed by the Marxist Kurdish Workers Party (PKK) rebellion. (Reuters)

**190 Moroccans killed:** The Polisario Front claimed on Thursday to have killed 190 Moroccan soldiers and wounded 150 during its attack near the desert outpost of Hauza, but Moroccan officials described the claim as propaganda.

"This is their habitual tactic," said one Moroccan army officer. "They claim an impossible number of Moroccan casualties to conceal their own serious losses." (AP)

**Jihan Sadat preaches peace:** The wife of assassinated Egyptian President Anwar Sadat maintains her late husband's message of conciliation.

"What's the use of war with Israel, what's the use?" said Jihan Sadat in her address Wednesday to the Miami leadership roundtable. 250 business and community leaders. "Nobody's going to win." (UPI)

**Officials acquitted:** Former northern region governor Majzoub Al Khalifa and three other former officials were acquitted Wednesday by a military tribunal of charges of corruption.

The tribunal, chaired by Col Mohammed Beshir Suleiman, said the prosecution failed to prove that Al Khalifa and the three other defendants were guilty of selling relief milk donated by the international organisation to victims of last year's rains and floods (AP).

**Denktash offers proposals:** Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash said on Wednesday he had given the UN secretary-general some ideas for a resumption of stalled talks on reunifying Cyprus under a federal system of government.

Denktash, whose negotiations with President George Vassiliou, the leader of the Greek Cypriot community, broke down during the summer, conferred for more than an hour with Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar. (Reuters)

**Canadians plead guilty:** Two Canadians have pleaded guilty to scheming to illegally export aircraft parts to Iran and have agreed to testify against a Swedish man who prosecutors accuse of masterminding the plot, authorities said.

Ronald Hilton Arab, 32, and his wife, Eileen Audrey Arab, 33, both of Vancouver, each pleaded guilty Wednesday to one count of conspiracy to violate the Arms Export Control Act and one count of money laundering. (AP)

**Drug addiction on the rise:** Drug consumption in Israel has increased considerably since 1982 as one of the unexpected outcomes of the Lebanese conflict, according to the French weekly magazine, "Le Nouvel Observateur."

Quoting Major Rafi Peled, head of the Israeli police intelligence service, the weekly wrote, yesterday, that drug traffickers have smuggled in 1,500 kilos of heroin and 10 kilos of cocaine in 1988. (KUNA)

**ICRC appeals:** A week after the abduction in Sidon of its two Swiss officials, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) today issued another appeal for their urgent release.

"The abduction of Christen and Erriquez," negates the very essence of their humanitarian mission," an ICRC statement said here on Friday. (KUNA)

## No threat to Israel security

WASHINGTON, Oct. 13. (AP): A pending \$3-billion sale of tanks and other equipment to Saudi Arabia will not have an appreciable effect on Israel's security because the Saudis have indicated the weapons will be deployed far from Israel's borders, an administration official said yesterday.

The Saudis have told US officials that the threats to their security come mostly from the country's neighbours to the northeast -- Iran and Iraq -- and from South Yemen, along Saudi Arabia's southern border.

The main items are 315 modern tanks, but two-thirds of the price tag reflects the cost of equipment and ammunition, including huge trucks to transport any tanks that break down. The deal is roughly equivalent to one year's US assistance to Israel.

The US government on Wednesday informally notified Congress of the intended sale, setting in motion a 30-day period in which Congress either kills the deal by majority votes in the Senate and House of Representatives or lets it go through. Deliveries will begin in about 1993.

Lameh has registered disapproval of the proposed sale of the M1A2 tank as a matter of principle but thus far has not raised serious objections, the official said. The sale also faces little apparent opposition from Israel's supporters on Capitol Hill.

The official, briefing reporters on the condition he not be identified by name, said he expects some of the tanks will likely be deployed at a military training school in north-west Saudi Arabia not far from the Israeli border.

This should not be a concern to Israel because "you need only to look at a topographical map of Saudi Arabia to realise that tanks have a very difficult time indeed getting from Saudi Arabia to Israel in combat situations," the official said.

A pamphlet on the tank sale, published by the State and Defence Departments, said the M1A2 will give the Saudis improved mobility over severe terrain. The M1A2 would replace French-built tanks designed 30 years ago.

The US will benefit from the sale because the M1A2 will enhance the deterrent value of Saudi forces that guard natural resources of "critical strategic importance" to the United States and the West, the pamphlet said.

It added that the tank will provide a \$3-billion-dollar boost to US exports, tens of thousands of man-years of employment for US workers and more than \$680 million in savings and revenues to the US treasury.

Meanwhile, senior State and Defence Department officials said that the tank the Bush administration hopes to sell to Saudi Arabia is apparently a less capable, "export version" of the one intended for the US army.

Lebanese MPs try again

## Peace plan scuttled

TAIF, Oct. 13. (Agencies): Renewed tussling over the timetable for a Syrian troop withdrawal and a new Muslim-Christian power sharing agreement dented the optimism today that a parliamentary committee had agreed on a formula for ending Lebanon's 14-year civil war.

A meeting scheduled to put the finishing touches on the agreement was postponed repeatedly as the Saudi Foreign Minister, Prince Saud Al Faisal, tried to iron out differences between the groups.

George Sadeh, who stormed out of the meeting a day earlier, met with fellow Christian Parliament members. After the meeting Deputy Edmond Rizk told reporters that they agreed "on a unified formula on the issues that caused the postponement."

He would not give details, but said the Syrian role in Lebanon was not discussed.

Conference sources said they expected the 17-member committee would meet late Friday and the full session of 63 deputies -- the first in more than a week --

could be convened tomorrow.

They said committee members held side consultations today to try to head off further unexpected eruptions once the meeting got underway.

The sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said hardline deputies had renewed their demand for a quick Syrian withdrawal from Lebanon, and Muslim legislators also were insisting sectarianism be abolished, said the sources.

In Beirut, Shiite Muslim leader Nabih Berri in a statement to reporters declared that the left-wing coalition will not honour any agreement by the parliamentarians in Taif unless political sectarianism was abolished.

He threatened that failure to abolish political sectarianism would "essentially mean a return to war."

Druze leader Walid Jumblatt also was quoted as stressing that he will not abide by any agreement that does not eliminate sectarianism.

Sadeh had left the committee meeting accusing the Muslims of making "crippling demands."

He did not say what the demands were, but stressed in a note sent to the press centre "they affect intrinsic issues" and "can not be accepted under any circumstances."

Lebanese sources in Taif reported that Sadeh walked out as Sunni and Shiite Muslim lawmakers argued over the powers of the Parliament Speaker, who has traditionally been a Shiite.

**Released**

■ A 31-year-old Swiss airline stewardess was released today after being held for six days by unidentified gunmen in north Lebanon.

Lebanese police said they have no information about the abduction, but reliable security sources said Astrid Fischer was released in the port city of Tripoli at 3:45 pm (1245 GMT).

One source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Fischer left Tripoli immediately after her release and went to the northern village of Koumba. The part-time flight attendant for the Swiss national carrier Swissair has a house in the village.

## Wedding turns into a funeral

BAALBECK, Oct. 13. (Agencies): A wedding was turned into a funeral today when a rocket struck a house in north Lebanon killing three women guests at a reception, security sources and witnesses said.

They said a dispute between two residents of the mainly-Shiite Muslim town of Baalbeck led to an exchange of rocket-propelled grenades and gunfire.

"The wedding turned into a funeral," said one witness.

Two Lebanese civilians were seriously wounded yesterday when a landmine exploded near the Zimara crossing to Israel's self-declared south Lebanon security zone, military sources said.

Israel expelled today a Lebanese police officer from southern Lebanon on charges he was not abiding by Israeli regulations, security sources said.

## Khaddafi to visit Egypt

CAIRO, Oct. 13. (Reuters): Libyan leader Muammar Khaddafi will visit Egypt on Sunday for the first time in 16 years and hold talks with President Hosni Mubarak, Egyptian presidential sources said today.

They said Khaddafi would pay a 24-hour visit to Mersa Metruh, a resort on the Mediterranean north west of Cairo.

Relations between Egypt and Libya have been erratic since Khaddafi seized power in a bloodless coup 20 years ago and he has not been to Egypt since the closing stages of the 1973 Arab-Israeli war.

Egypt has in the past accused Libya of sabotage attempts and of sending hit-squads to Egypt to kill Libyan exiles. The two countries fought a brief border war in 1977.

But a breakthrough came in Casablanca, Morocco, last May when Mubarak and Khaddafi met during an Arab League summit.

The summit marked Egypt's formal readmission to the Arab world after ties were broken because of Cairo's 1979 peace treaty with Israel.

Libya and Syria are the only Arab states which have not now restored full diplomatic relations with Cairo.

## Islamic delegates at UN object to Vatican observer's comment on Sharia

UNITED NATIONS, Oct. 13. (Reuters): Representatives of several Islamic countries have objected to a statement by a Vatican diplomat that in some countries Muslim sharia law is imposed on all citizens regardless of their own religion.

The remark was made by Archbishop Renato Martino, permanent UN observer of the Holy See, during a debate on self-determination, apartheid and racial issues in the General Assembly's social committee.

Representatives of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iraq, Pakistan, Iran and other countries all took issue late on Wednesday

with the archbishop's statement.

He had said that "in some societies, a particular religious law, such as the Muslim sharia, is imposed upon all citizens, regardless of their own religious beliefs."

Expressing surprise at the remarks, Khalid Al Saud of Saudi Arabia said Islam was based on co-existence with all religions. He called on the Holy See's observer to renounce his statement and learn more about Islam.

Kuwait's Fayez Al Otaibi asked why Islam had been specified when there were several societies in the world in which other religions were imposed.

Faruq Ziada of Iraq said Islam was the state religion in his own country but religious freedom was guaranteed by the constitution and state laws. The Holy Quran taught that no one could be forced to practice any religion, he added.

Aneesa Zeb said that in Islamic societies Islamic laws were generally not applicable to non-Muslims. She called on the observer of the Holy See to refrain from making "divisive statements."

Iran's Mostafa Alaie said Muslim countries had an historic tradition of tolerance for people of other religions. On the other hand, the rights of Islamic minorities were

violated in other societies, he said.

Another Vatican representative, the Reverend John Muthig, responded by saying the Holy See respected Islam and the archbishop had not meant to imply that Islamic countries were racist or imposed their religion on others.

But he said abuses had occurred in the application of sharia, such as a case in which a Christian had been publicly flogged for a violation of Islamic religious law. In that case, he added, a number of Muslim leaders in the country concerned had protested at what they had seen as an abuse of Islamic law.

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## EVENTS

## TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

## KTV 1

9.30 The opening and Holy Quran  
9.40 Sabah Al Khir news and variety  
9.55 Around the World: Cartoon serial  
10.15 Magazine D'Actualite  
10.30 Shay Ismaho Hob: Arabic serial  
12.00 Min Mathakhi: Local programme

## EVENING

4.00 The opening and Holy Quran

4.15 The World Today via Satellite

4.45 Al Forsan Al Thalatha: Cartoon serial

5.15 Al Fanan Al Sagheer: Children programme

6.15 Al Tareeq Illa Al Qods: Historical serial, starring Mahmoud Yaseen, Yousif Shaban, Tawfeeq Al Dagen and Layla Tuher

7.15 Noor Al Islam: Religious programme

7.35 Nathra Alla Al Alam: Cultural programme

8.00 Security and Citizens:

Local programme

8.30 Good Evening and local news

9.00 Arabic news

9.45 Ahlan Ya Jeddo Al Aziz: Arabic serial

10.30 Lobat Al Karasi: Local serial

## KTV 2

6.00 Opening announcement & Holy Quran

6.10 Hello Kitty: A cartoon series for children

6.30 The Story-Teller "The Luck Child": The prophecy says that a new

born child will dethrone the tyrant king!

7.00 A Day in the Life "A Mouses Tale": A day in mice's life... How mice can avoid cats and owls

7.30 Out of this World "The Secret of Eric's Success": How Eric can arrange matters and co-ordinate between her study and work...

8.00 News in English

8.30 Diamonds "Leap of Faith": Michael and Christina protect a Russian ballet dancer

who defected to the West and plans to save his sister kept as a hostage by the KGB

9.30 Portrait of the Soviet Union "Siberia: Ice One Fire": Two thirds the area of the Soviet Union, rich of metals such as gold, iron, copper, coal... etc... Its people mixture of old and modern cultures and traditions...

10.30 Movie: "Love Among Thieves"

12.00 News in brief

12.30 Magazine D'Actualite

## Goan get together

A SOCIAL reception meeting will be held for all Goan associations and Goan sports clubs members as well as community members who have shown interest in community welfare programmes. The reception will take place at the Kuwait Sheraton Hotel next Friday at 11 am.

This special get-together is being organised for the first time in order to create a common forum amongst the Goans so that a representative committee can take up issues of higher education admissions in Goa colleges, and other matters that are of genuine interest to the community.

This reception is being organised by the Goan Community Committee

## PRAYERS

Fajr 4.30 am  
Zohr 11.34  
Asr 2.52 pm  
Maghreb 5.19  
Isha 6.36

## BBC world service highlights

## Getting to know you

IS it possible to divine someone's personality, moods and tastes through their star sign, handwriting or even through the shape of their head? Such questions have fascinated people for centuries — but even today businesses are using graphologists, phenologists and astrologers to help them select job applicants. BBC World Service meets some of the practitioners, and finds out how they go about their work and what lies behind their skills.

Sunday, October 15 at 19.15.  
Monday, October 16 at 10.30 and 16.30.  
Frequencies: 17.64 MHz/17.01 m; 15.07 MHz/19.91 m; 11.76 MHz/25.51 m.

## The Circle of Chalk

THE greatest of all Chinese plays known to the Western world shares a theme with the Biblical Judgement of Solomon. The tug-of-love between two women claiming the same child has inspired painters, writers and musicians throughout the ages.

This version is based on the 1925 German adaptation by Alfred Henschke.

Sunday, October 15 at 15.01 and 22.01.

Frequencies: 17.64 MHz/17.01 m; 15.07 MHz/19.91 m; 11.76 MHz/25.51 m.

## Composer of the Month

CLEMENTI is best known for his sonatas, practised by countless piano pupils, but during his lifetime (1752-1832) he ranked among the musical giants of the day. This programme tells of his extraordinary life and features a variety of his works.

Sunday, October 15 at 14.30 and 21.30.  
Frequencies: 17.64 MHz/17.01 m; 15.07 MHz/19.91 m; 11.76 MHz/25.51 m.

## Short story: The Colour Mauve

GWENDOLYN loves the colour mauve to the point of obsession. When her sister leaves home suddenly to get married, this eccentricity takes on tragic proportions. The author, Rhonda Petersen, lives in New Zealand.

Sunday, October 15, at 12.45.  
Monday, October 16, at 22.45.  
Frequencies: 17.64 MHz/17.01 m; 15.07 MHz/19.91 m; 11.76 MHz/25.51 m.

## CINEMA

Al Andalus Arabic film

Salmiya Hall booked

Al Hamra Devil's Three

Drive-In Arabic film

Al Firdous Aitaar

Fahsheel Open Khuda Kasam

Fahsheel Mudra

Al Jahra Tiger Shark

Granada Young Guns

Salaikhah Arabic film

Jeeb Moonnam Mora

Ahmad Drive-In White Ghost

## Christian Dior's Ambiance

Nevine Thiermann, the International Beauty Delegate from Parfums Christian Dior conducted a special press conference for the ladies of the Kuwait press. The newest collection of make-up was launched last Tuesday.

Christian Dior creates Ambiance. The curtain is raised on the harmony, emotion and precious magic that is beauty. Sophisticated comfort, the refinement of light and shade, the Ambiance hints at a look which is natural and soft. The new visual is a woman moving, she is draped, melting within a melody of pastels, the adaptability of autumn reds and warmth of browns and ochres. Poised and feminine, she bears all the signs of tenderness on her face, superbly inspired by T'YEN. Her skin has a matte, natural transparency from Tint Actual, her cheeks, the velvety freshness of Blush Final. She is dreamily reflecting an image of autumn through her gaze.

## WHAT'S ON

## ARTS

## Islamic Art

A SIX week — 12 lecture course on Islamic Art will be given in English at the Dar Al Athar Al Islamiyyah on Sunday and Tuesday mornings from 10.00 — 12.00 noon. October 29 through December 5, 1989.

An eight week — eight lecture course on Islamic Art will be given in Arabic at the Dar Al Athar Al Islamiyyah on Monday afternoons from 4.00 — 6.00 pm from October 30 through December 19, 1989.

To register for either of these courses please sign up at the Dar Al Athar during museum hours 8.30 am — 12.30 pm.

## SOCIAL

## Colva Nite

OCT 19: Annual Colva Nite at New Ballroom of Ramada Al Salem Hotel. Top Ranks in attendance. For details contact Tel. 2413884/2434776/56291-41/4310913 after 5 pm.

## Moods &amp; Melody

"Moods & Melody" performs "Geet Maala" — a presentation of pop songs from Hindi, Malayalam, Tamil and Telugu films — on 12th October 1989 at Indian Arts

## Navelam Youth Centre

NOV 16: A annual get-together nite with live music from "Stepping Stones and Top-Ranks" having lots more amusements, surprises awaiting at Le Mirage ballroom — Ramada Al Salem Hotel. Contact: Mr Alex — 2426334, Mr Marian — 2416945

## Breeze 89

Tivim Centre's Breeze 89 is going to hit the floors of Ramada Al Salem Hotel's new ballroom on 26.10.89 at a social evening organised in commemoration of village festival. Top Rank and Stepping Stones will provide scintillating music. Highlights include Made For Each Other Contest, a Ball Room Competition and a lot of surprises. For further information please contact Casmiro or Mario on Tel. No. 2441860/67, after 3.30 pm.

## Sheba Sound

SHEBA Sound, a classical quartet of oboes, bassoon and harpsichord, will perform at the Mousetrap Theatre on Oct 14, at 8.00 pm — price KD4; and at Messilah Beach Hotel on Oct 15, where the performance will include a sit-down dinner for KD9, inclusive.

Please ring 5382099 for reservation and look out for posters in Tanagra boutiques who are sponsoring the visit.

## The Gypsies

"THE Gypsies" from Colombo will be performing at the Messilah Beach Hotel on Friday 13 and Sunday 15. Two shows daily at 2.30 pm and 6.30 pm. For further details call 4844862.

## British Council

HEAVENLY Pursuits: Saturday, Oct 14 and Sunday, Oct 15 at 6.30 pm (91 min.). This is a gentle comedy which deals quietly, affectionately and sensitively with some controversial issues: faith versus science, belief versus scepticism, miracles versus the potential of men to rise above their circumstances. The acting is excellent and the photography reveals a whole new side of Glasgow. It is enjoyable, interesting and leaves one feeling good when the credits roll.

Woody Woodpecker and His Friends: Wednesday, Oct 18 at 6.00 pm; Thursday, Oct 18 at 10.30 pm. Meet the fast-talking Woody Woodpecker and his friends: Buss Buzzard, Chilly Willy, Wally Walrus and Andy Panda. Join them in their full-filled adventures and have a great time!

Free admission but please book seats by calling: 2515512, 2533204 and 2533227.

Star Nite DEC 21: Star Nite Stepping Stones have stepped in and with Perfect Strangers it's going to be a nite to Celebrate Yuletide. Fun fare for children and variety programme for others starting from 5-8.30 pm and goes on from 9 pm until sumptuous buffet mid-night. A galore of prizes with Hamper lucky draws under 555 sponsorship invitations with Shop No. 34 ex New Super Market and contact Tel. 5331940, 2413706 Res.

Carnatic Music THERE will be a Music Performance by Maharajapuram Santhanam on October 17, 1989. For your reservations contact Tel. 5627718 or 5631230 or 5612114.

Sir Syed Day Aligarh Muslim University old boys will celebrate Sir Syed Day on 26th October at 8 p.m. at SAS Hotel.

Competitions for all participating children will be held in various categories in fancy dress, painting, general and Islamic knowledge etc. Please contact Farid Chowdhury (Tel: 4842037/5623585), Zahoorullah Shah (5657479/4891275) Salman Siddiqui (3923393).

## Messilah Beach Hotel

HALLOWEEN Party to be held at Messilah Beach Hotel on Oct 31, 1989. For booking contact Recreation Office at 5624111 Ext. 751/739.

## Kuwait Caledonians

THE annual general meeting will be held at Messilah Beach Hotel on Sunday, Oct 15, at 7.30 pm. All members welcome. For details Tel: 5335082.

## Kuwait Cultural Centre

NEW courses at the cultural centre: yonic healing classes, two sessions in the evenings on Tuesdays and Thursdays; jujitsu (martial arts); Saturday and Mondays, pm; Chinese cooking classes, Saturdays, 9-11 am. For details call 5624393.

## Deep Dwell

OCT 19, at 7.00 pm: Indian Arts Circle. Funaites. Organised by Satkaar, a musical evening with dances, songs and a brief comedy drama, to celebrate the festival of lights — Deepawali. For invitation cards, contact: Rajpal Tyagi, 5623545; Pushpender Sharma, 5620810.

Bookkeeping and Accounting THE Association of Filipinos in Kuwait (Kapilku) will hold their self-improvement courses or the free classes. Bookkeeping and Accounting on Friday, Oct 20, at Far East Restaurant at 9.00 am. The courses will run for four Fridays and all successful participants will be awarded the Certificate of Attendance by the organisers. Lecturers for the courses are: Kapilku President Manny Inserto who will take up basic and advanced bookkeeping and accounting in banking, Finance Officer and Attache of the Philippine embassy Jun Arenas who will cover the complete government accounting specially in Taxation, Jun de Dios, Finance and administration Manager of EEI who will explain in details the financial accounting in construction company and the Administration side, Joe Sta. Maria, Chief Accountant of EEI will cover construction accounting and financing the business and Delfin Yambot, chief accountant of KBC will discuss accounting in manufacturing business. All interested participants can register to VP Sarah Macarimbang on 4843447.

Filipino Sing-along Contest OCT 13 & 20, Nov 10 & 17: Aralya Restaurant will hold a Sing-Along Contest for Filipinos at 6 pm. A valuable prize will be given to the number 1 winner. If interested, please give your name and song title to 2428284/2402540. The finals will be held on November 24.

Narthana AS a part of the Nehru Centenary year celebrations "Narthana" stages "Anarkali" ballet at IAC hall on Nov 9. The popular historical story took place in the year 1600 will be staged with the real Mughal Muslim costumes and style. Admission restricted with passes which are available at Tel: 4337608/2425131/3904817/2461589/5643126.

Barefoot in the Park THE Kuwait Players open their 1989/90 season with the comedy "Barefoot in the Park" by Neil Simon, directed by Ken Winston & produced by Glenis Muckie, the show opens with a gala performance on Oct 31, 1989 at 8 pm in the Mousetrap Theatre at the New English School. Tickets for the gala night performance at KD4.000 each, which includes a light buffet after the show. Tickets for other performances on Nov 1, 2, 3 and 4 are KD3.000 each. Reservations can be made by ringing 3903475.

## Bengali dance drama

THE Bengali musical play "Nakshi Kathar Maath" (The Field of the Embroidered Quilt) by famous Bangladesh poet Jashimuddin will be staged at the Starlight Theatre, Doha Entertainment City, on Nov 2 and 3. For details please contact Tel. 5625456, 4893424, 4744490, 4742656, 4315759, 3713923.

Ladies International League THE purpose of LIL is to offer women of all nationalities an organisation in which they can enjoy social events and activities and, at the same time, meet women of many nationalities and in that way, gain an insight to the people and culture of other countries.

As our world becomes smaller each day with the ever increasing speed of travel, who knows when you may be in a foreign country new to yourself. Hopefully, as a member of LIL, you will have met someone from that country and know a little of its people and their culture.

Accept the challenge to open yourself up to new friendships and a new year in Kuwait by joining LIL. Attend the informal and fun monthly meetings and join in the social events and activities.

Upcoming events BAZAAR: 2 November 1989 (Kuwait International Hotel)

IST "BIG" MEETING: 6 November 1989 (Kuwait Regency Palace)

Watch the Arab Times for more information on LIL.

Ladies International League Bazaar: to be held Nov 2nd, Kuwait International Hotel from 10 am to 6 pm. All those who want to be vendors, please call 5325131 from 10 am to 7 pm for further information.

Ladies International League Bazaar: to be held Thursday, Nov 2 at Kuwait International Hotel, Safat Room, from 10 am to 6 pm. Come and buy handicrafts from all over the world. Also, tents and Al Assaf Gifts (SAS Hotel) will be there. Raffle and door prizes.

Hotels

Kuwait International Afternoon Tea: Served at La Patisserie from 3 pm to 6 pm. Offers the finest teas, delicious salmon and cucumber sandwiches, mouth watering pastries and not to forget those delicious scones, strawberry jam and lovely fresh cream. Pianist and harpist in the evenings.

Perrier Promotion: For that tingling taste one can try Perrier Lemon, Perrier Lime, Perrier Lime and fresh kiwi juice, Perrier and apple juice or a variety of other creations. Served in all the outlets.

Falaka: Daily Chef's Special for lunch and dinner. Special mezzeh buffet on Thursday evenings. Live entertainment during dinner.

La Palma: Presents a culinary trip around the world featuring authentic Chinese, Indian, Mexican, African, Italian, British, German/Austrian, Turkish and Arabic dishes. Theme nights on Saturdays and Tuesdays. Telephone: 2530000/2533000.

## Kuwait Regency Palace

THE "Kuwait" Regency Palace has prepared a break for your weekends and public holidays.

2 nights/3 days stays a Wednesday-Friday

1 night/2 days stay ... Thursday-Friday

The package will include: free welcome drink, free breakfast, free daily newspaper, late check-out, free entrance to Al Fotouh Health Centre, which includes beach, pool, health club, racket sports, jogging track and a lot more... enjoy the video programmes from 10.00 am — 2.00 am.

All the above at the exceptional rate of KD12.750 per person per night sharing a double room. (Children under 10 years sharing their parents room are free of charge).

On top of all that, you can enjoy the ... BBQ night every Wednesday at KD6.000 per person — children at half price. See food night every Thursday at KD7.500 per person — children half price. Each Friday from 7 — 11 am, come along to Al Sahlah and enjoy our family breakfast at KD2.500 per person. Give mum a day off. Have breakfast with us for the children, there are cartoon characters, videos and gifts in their own special area.

For reservations please call 5728000 ext. 6061/6012.

## Kuwait Plaza Hotel

NEW menus every day at Al Dallah Coffee Shop with variety of Oriental, Arabic and Continental dishes to suit everybody's taste. Enjoy more than thirty different appetizers, mezzah, main course and dessert. A lavish buffet for KD2.995 only. Breakfast with a selection of more than 25 dishes to choose from and savour. Eat as much as you can with coffee and tea. It is the breakfast you like most for \$14.95 only.

MARCO POLO: The Italian Restaurant in the heart of the city, features authentic Italian food with our resident Duo Stan and Alice who play your favourite songs and music.

## SPORTS

## Children's sports

A CHILDREN'S sports festival will be held on Oct 27 at the University ground, Shuwaikh. All Bangladeshi children are eligible to participate. Each participant will be given a free T-shirt. Willing participants are requested to contact any one of the following telephones for registration: 4840759, 4710306, 4312989, 4312730, 5716586, 3714353, 3626646.



## Perfectly suited to ME women

Being a woman, you know this Saint Laurent Bonaparte is a winner.

The look of the Bonaparte comes from the Oriental, a strong look that suggests a proud, aristocratic personality, albeit out at the same time playful.

The colours are brilliant and sparkling, derived from the most precious dyes. The perfect suited to the woman of the Middle East, the darker complexion. For the woman who is elegant and who does not forget the colour of her hair.

with a rose or magenta brushing powder. The eyes are mysterious and intense, underlined in black, they shimmer in oriental blue and imperial violet.

The mouth is equally striking. A crimson red lipstick gives a full, warm and passionate look.

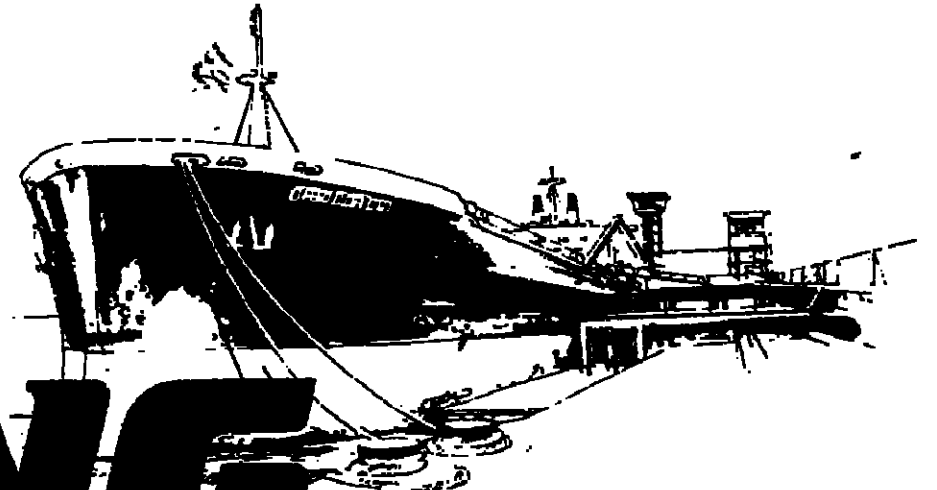
While creating a look for international make-up artist, Terry, works closely with Saint Laurent to develop a fashion show. The look is developed according to the samples of material that the fashion designer is using in his collection. So when a woman wears Bonaparte, she is wearing more than a make-up. She is wearing a fashion.

مكتبة الوطن



# SHIPPING & FORWARDING

AN ARAB TIMES SUPPLEMENT



Shipping experts are calling for the creation of a free port

## Kuwait's ports busy but the bubble may burst

By Fathima Ahmed  
Arab Times staff

AFTER a four-year lull in shipping during the Iran-Iraq war, Kuwait's ports are again humming with activity. But experts are unsure how long this happy situation will last and have called for the setting up of a free port to keep up the momentum.

Their fears stem from the brisk rebuilding activity by Iraq, which hopes to make its ports fully operational as soon as possible. Lloyd's maritime report expects Basra port to re-open within the next 18 months. The ports of Umm Khasr and Khor Zubair are expected to become operational by the mid-1990s.

Once Iraqi ports re-open, shippers expect a sharp decline in transit trade, considered to be the backbone of shipping in Kuwait.

However, opinion differs on Kuwait's strategic location as a transit port for cargo to Iraq. Some experts are confident that Kuwait will retain its transit trade. Said one expert: "Basra may be active in future but Kuwait will continue to be a transit point for both incoming and outgoing cargo; Kuwait will be strategically utilised in shipping, we know certain cost

factors will prohibit a ship from going from Kuwait to Basra to pick up small items."

Another expert admits that variables like congestion at Iraqi ports may secure Kuwait's status but insists the country must examine other avenues to ensure the future of shipping.

For the moment, Kuwait's ports are bustling with activity; ship movement peaked to 63 per cent in March 1989 as compared with the same period last year. Bulk cargo, like millions of tonnes of wheat and barley, has been moving from Shuaiba port to Iraq for the last 10 months. One expert estimated an average movement of 10,000 tonnes of cargo per day between April and September this year.

Experts believe increased activity to be a temporary phase. By mid-1990, at least a 50 per cent decline is expected after Iraq's Umm Khasr and Khor Zubair ports become operational. The daily average movement of goods is expected to fall to between 3,000 and 5,000 tonnes per day.

"Umm Qasr and Khor Zubair will receive small- and medium-size vessels; in view of increased activity at Iraqi ports, we expect a slowdown at Kuwaiti ports," said an expert.

In view of the expected decline in transit trade, shipping experts called for a review of customs duty, introduction of 'drawback' for re-export cargo and the creation of a free port. They also suggest ensuring the future of re-export trade.

At present, custom duty charges range between four and 30 per cent; protection of local industry prohibits import of certain products manufactured here like furniture and pipes, to name a few. Shippers suggested a revision of customs duty on goods imported for the 're-export' market. At present, custom fees are refunded if cargo is exported from Kuwait within three months. Some shipping companies called for extending this period to one year.

They also urged revision of clearance facilities at the port. At present, it takes about three days to clear re-export cargo. In Dubai, it takes eight hours. "This is a setback for exporters," said one shipping expert.

During the Iran-Iraq war, Dubai and Jebel Ali ports emerged as a southern Gulf loadcentre by operating as a transit port for cargo to neighbouring countries. Jordan's Aqaba port grew to serve mark-

ets in Iraq by trucking general cargo overland to Baghdad. Kuwait, located in the northern Gulf, lost nearly all of its transit trade potential.

Some freight-forwarders expect Kuwait to regain some of the transit cargo lost to Dubai and Aqaba. They argue that Kuwait would still be "cost efficient" in terms of operational feasibility, cost per tonne and revenue per tonne. "Dubai traffic will be diverted to Iran; Kuwait's to Iraq," contends one expert.

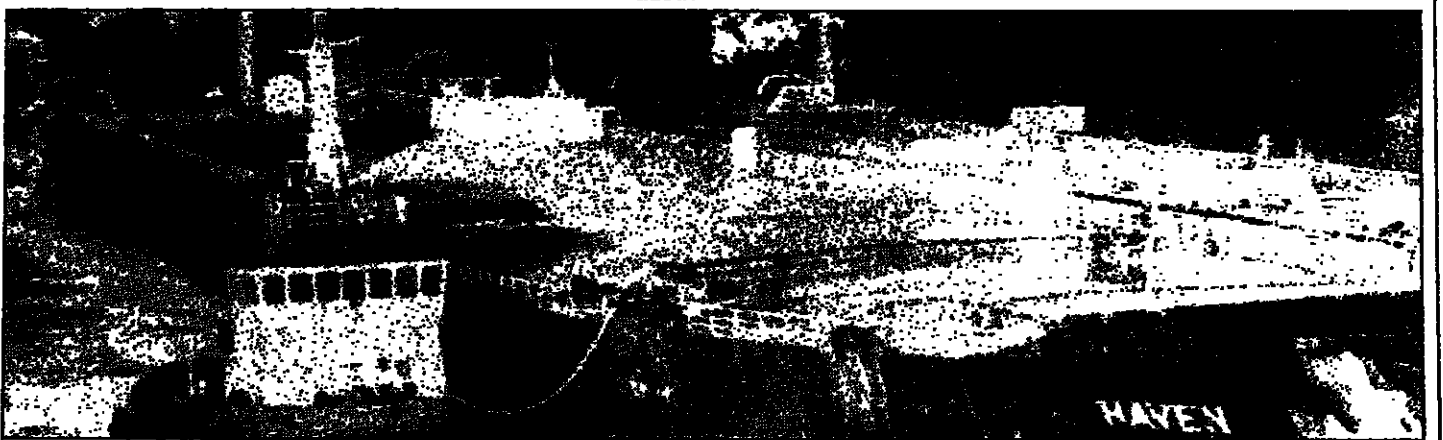
Kuwait's exports, bulk cargo or industrial goods, would keep the ports bustling. Apart from oil and chemical-based products, scrap also forms a small but significant amount of export cargo to such countries as Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Thailand, Singapore, Korea and Japan.

Freight costs, though still high, are expected to fall due to competition in the market. War risk insurance, which had jumped to nearly 70 per cent, has dropped by half since 1987.

Although Kuwait's shipping future is not so rosy, the present upturn at the ports is expected to last for the next two years with an increased outflow of cargo to Iraq, in addition to handling Kuwait's own import needs.



The ceasefire in the Gulf war, during which there were no safe havens in the Arabian Gulf, has opened floodgates of optimism for shipping trade in the Mideast.



## Revitalising transit trade

By Capt. Abdur Rahman Al Naibari (MCIT)  
Assistant Director General,  
Public Ports Authority

TRADITIONALLY Kuwait has been the centre in the Gulf for free trade, re-export and transit to neighbouring countries.

The relationship between social traditions and trade, imposed some form of open mindedness which made the Kuwaitis very tolerant and trustworthy. They gained an immense amount of experience not matched in any part of the Gulf.

The new wealth arrived after the discovery of the oil, creating over the years many changes, not only in the infrastructure of the country, but also in the social structure. Many expatriates from all walks of life were welcomed with open arms, as they brought a new type of experience much needed to face the tremendous change.

Yet Kuwait did not lose its position as a trade centre for transit and re-export.

Transit cargoes are assessed in two ways. 'Number of tonnes' and 'value in Kuwaiti dinars'.

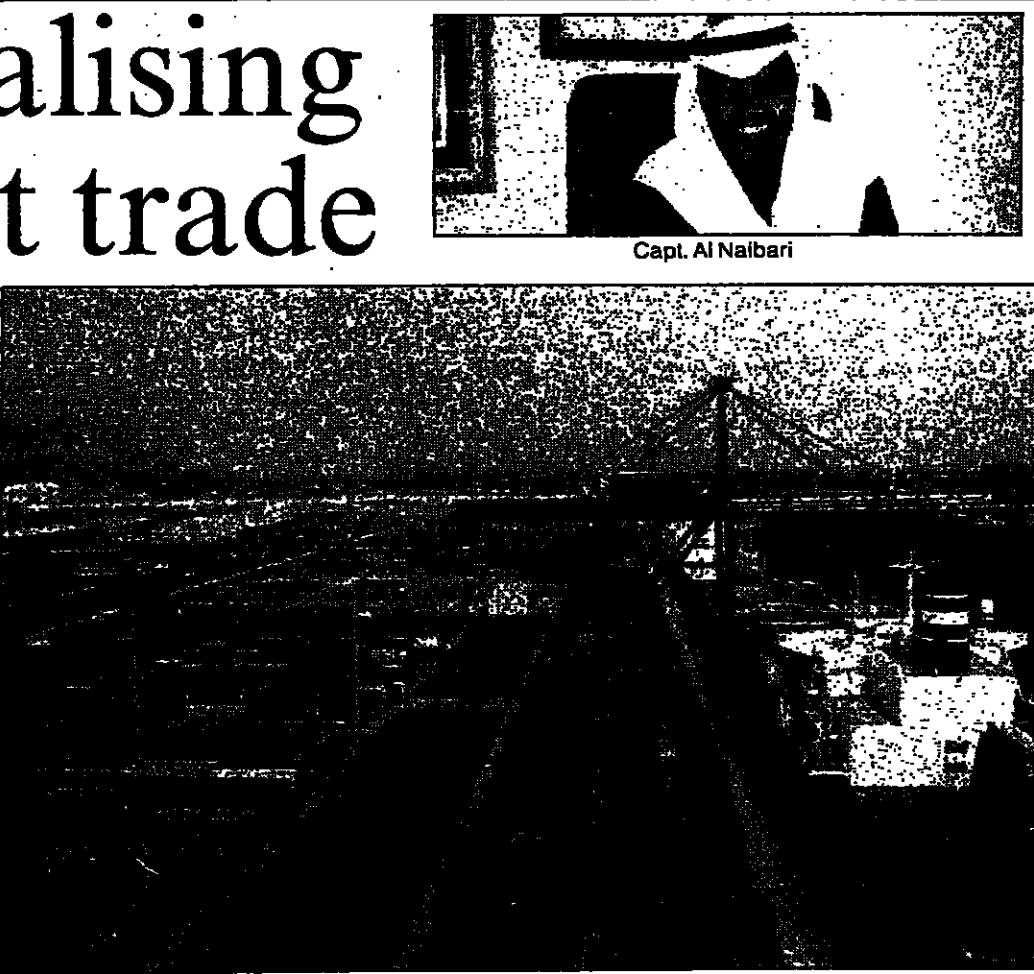
The peak of tonnage was achieved in 1983 at 3,030,242 tonnes, valued at KD465.5 million.

In 1982, tonnage was 1,671,392 mt. at a value of KD 772.8m.

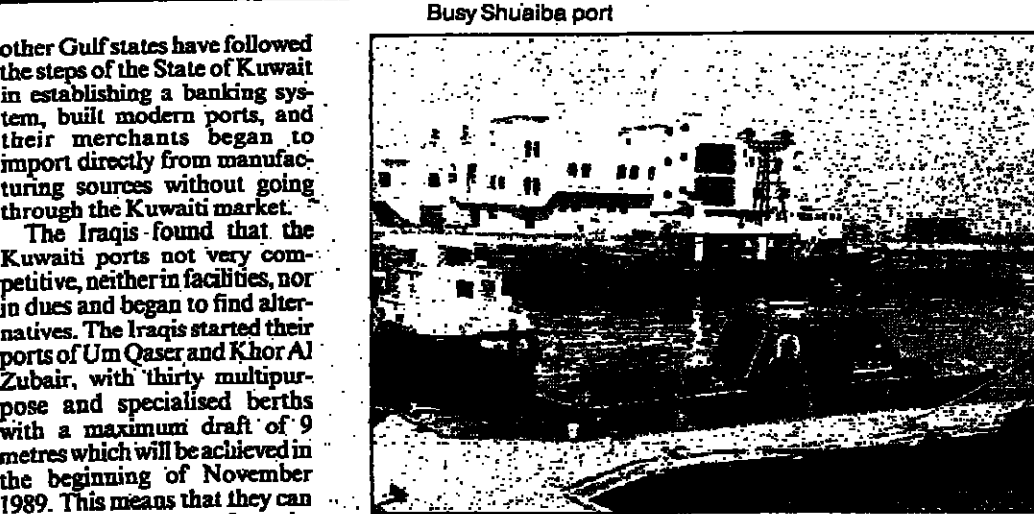
Since then we have noticed a great decline in the transit trade. This decline in my opinion is attributed to the following factors:

1. The Iran - Iraq war
2. The decline of oil prices, and finally
3. The vast world-wide debts.

There is also a decline in the re-export trade, which dropped from KD398 million to KD160 million which is attributed to the negative effects of the stock market crash 'Souk Al Manakh' as well as the fact that



Capt. Al Naibari



Busy Shuaiba port

other Gulf states have followed the steps of the State of Kuwait in establishing a banking system, built modern ports, and their merchants began to import directly from manufacturing sources without going through the Kuwaiti market.

The Iraqis found that the Kuwaiti ports not very competitive, neither in facilities, nor in dues and began to find alternatives. The Iraqis started their ports of Um Qasr and Khor Al Zubair, with thirty multipurpose and specialised berths with a maximum draft of 9 metres which will be achieved in the beginning of November 1989. This means that they can receive various types of vessels.

So what do we do to revitalise the situation in Kuwait?

As far as the ports are concerned I would suggest the following:

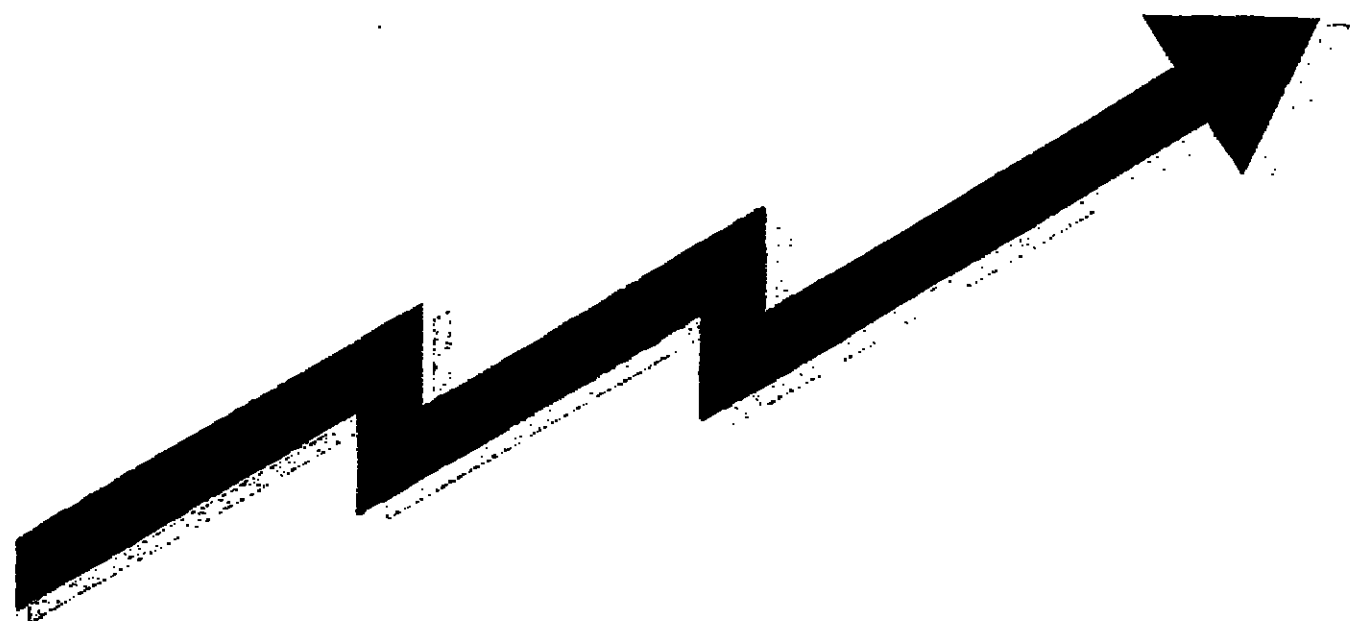
1. Remodernise the port of Shuaiba by upgrading its old berths and add new specialised

2. Revise port dues, and
3. Consider extending the free time for cargoes to be kept in the port.

There are of course other measures to be taken by other authorities, for instance the

customs department intends to introduce the system of 'drawback' which means that there is a full or part refund of the customs duty which was paid on the goods when they entered the country or when they were made, if they are exported.

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Other Gulf states have followed the footsteps of Kuwait in establishing a banking system, building modern ports and their merchants have begun to import directly.



Port Khalid: well-equipped but underused

# First cold store in Gulf

A MERE hop and a skip (or a taxi ride) along the coast from the skyscrapers of Dubai lies the city of Sharjah. It, too, has an international airport, a modern and well-equipped port and a distribution system linking this emirate to the neighbouring states. The importance of the short journey is the division between the two emirates. To the outsider, there is little reason for such good facilities to be so close together, in the same state, but Sharjah is not Dubai or Abu Dhabi. In addition it has the real advantage of a coastline in both the Gulf and the Indian Ocean. The port of Khor Fakkan proved immensely valuable during the war for owners who did not wish to risk their tonnage and crews. Even after it, several owners have stayed with the port to save considerable time for the mother ship on long haul voyages. Between the two ports of the Sharjah emirates runs a modern, well-built motorway.

Sharjah's colonial past included a period as a British Royal Air Force landing field. It was the first container facility in the Gulf when a finger pier was infilled on one side in the early 1970s. The modern port area is dredged to 11.5m to take the largest container ships, and from 10.5m to 8m elsewhere. Two 35-tonne gantry cranes, two 30-tonne yard gantry cranes, forklifts and auxiliary equipment are available on the 165,000 m<sup>2</sup> container area, and there is storage for 5,900 teu. There are 9,300 m<sup>2</sup> of dedicated transit shed and storage area. Only feeder services use this Port Khalid facility at Sharjah including Maersk, Oasis group, and, until recently, Norasia. The port also boasts the first cold store in the Gulf, and with two such stores at present has attracted Castle and Cooke, Fruitex of Saudi Arabia and West Reefer Line of France.

Several general cargo berths are backed up with extensive storage sheds. These receive such goods as Thai rice, Chinese sugar, wheat bran and grit. Nearly all the rice and sugar is transhipped to Iran, entering the local commodity markets before being loaded on dhows at the creek. Ferries continue Sharjah's strong links with Iran with four sailings a week to Bandar Abbas carrying about 5,000 passengers each month.

Port Khalid, Sharjah is underused. In 1988 a little over 40,000 teu was handled: 22,700 full and 17,700 empty boxes. Cement (300,000 tonnes), reefer cargo (157,000 tonnes) and bagged cargoes (96,000 tonnes) covered the non-containerised side. Port Khor Fakkan is a container terminal, and handled 124,000 teu last year. This was

**Only feeder services use Port Khalid facility at Sharjah including Maersk, Oasis group, and until recently, Norasia.**

split between 18,500 for import, 3,600 for export, 29,700 for transshipment both in and out, and 42,500 for restows. The 1988 throughput was more than double the 1987 figure of 61,000 teu, but well below the 1986 record of 183,000 teu and still only half the port's design capacity. The 1987 decline had been attributable to the loss of the main customer, United States Lines, in November 1986, but lines gained since then include Senator Line, DSR

Lines, Polish Ocean Lines and UASC. The 430m quay frontage is dredged to 12m and has two 41-tonne quay container gantry cranes and four rail-mounted terminal stacking cranes. The terminal is 100,000 m<sup>2</sup> area. As with the port of Fujairah down the east coast, Khor Fakkan looks to have a future beyond the war.

**Gulfair was awarded the management and operation contract for Khor Fakkan container terminal.**

Linking the two is the Gulfair company. Formed in 1976, Gulfair comprises four divisions: Sharjah Container Terminal, Khor Fakkan Container Terminal, Speedtrux and Trucktainer Transport Division and Gulfair Shipping Agency. After setting up the



Port Khalid, Sharjah

# Port Rashid under pressure

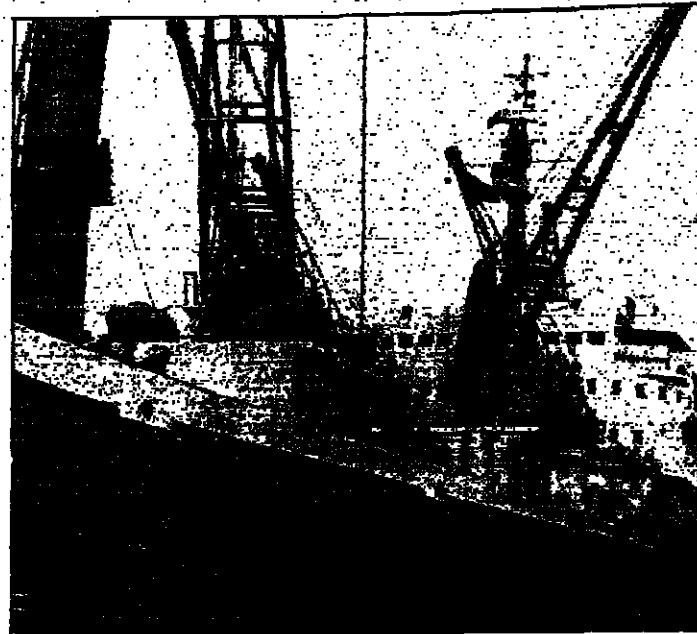
PORT RASHID, one of the two ports of the emirate of Dubai, has grown consistently and rapidly to become the Gulf's largest in terms of containers handled and lines served. In 1980 the port received a little over 200,000 teu.

In 1988 over 550,000 boxes were recorded and estimates for 1989 suggest about 650,000 teu. Over the first eight months of the year, 434,000 teu handled put Port Rashid ahead of all its local competitors, but may lead to some urgent planning for the new general manager David Gibbons.

Gibbons takes over from John Arundell who had spent 15 years in the Middle East and led Port Rashid's expansion under the management of Gray Mackenzie International. The new man had previously been with MATSS. Gray Mackenzie's joint venture company in Saudi Arabia, where he was chief executive from 1985 to 1988. MATSS provided management consultancy services to the Saudi Seaports Authority in Riyadh, management services at Jeddah and Jubail ports, and stevedoring services at Yanbu.

His move to Dubai comes at a time when port's container handling area is under pressure, and owners are beginning to make noises if they are delayed by a couple of hours. Gibbons is well aware that competition is fierce, but that his trump card is the 123 services calling regularly. He would like to attract American President Lines from their entrenched position in Fujairah, but cannot afford to alienate his existing customers, and is offering plans to the Dubai government for dramatic expansion of the port area and investment in post panamax cranes. Although Port Rashid has only once handled a post panamax ship, Gibbons believes in looking forward.

**Transshipment cargo**  
Dubai's growth in the 1980s has, for a large part, been on the back of transshipment cargo and especially onward carriage to Iran. Freight forwarders in the



Unloading goods

city have grown to adapt to the local trading conditions. Traders buy goods from overseas speculatively on letter of credit giving Dubai as final destination, but around 55 per cent of all cargo passing over the Port Rashid quayside goes to other destinations. Transshipment for Iran grew rapidly in 1987 when private sector buyers went on a buying spree, paying cash for tyres, cooking oil and rice. In April this year 540 dhows left Dubai creek for Iran carrying over 23,000 tons, mainly manufactured goods, machinery and transport equipment and food and live animals. Other transshipment destinations included Qatar (17,000 tonnes), Saudi Arabia (11,000 tonnes) and Kuwait (9,000 tonnes).

Forwarders have expressed concern over the new port investment in Iran itself, with Chabahar, lying across the Strait of Hormuz but outside the Gulf area, particularly watched. As yet little has been achieved there, but Normudu Line, a common carrier feeder operator has recently

been set up with two ships to win some of the transshipment trade. The first, of 450 teu, will serve Bahrain, Dammam, Kuwait and Abu Dhabi from Port Rashid; the second, of 160 teu, is geared and has a ramp to cater for the needs of Bandar Abbas or Bandar Khomeini.

**Containers main sector**

Containers have taken over from general cargo as Port Rashid's main sector. Last year saw 6.8m freight tonnes handled in containers against 2.2m as general cargo, and this year is likely to see a wider gap with January to July figures of 4.7m freight tonnes against 1.4m. The port's container handling operation is managed by a previous port general manager; the general cargo stevedoring is contracted to Dubai Labour Supply Company. The latter's general manager, John Lobo, arrived in Dubai in 1974 and for five years had no competition from containers. His team of 1,400 Indians, Pakistanis and Iranians handled 2,000 boxes and 50,000

vehicles last year, and will take any cargo not discharged by Arthur Jarman and his team. Dubai Labour Supply illustrates well the importance of expatriate labour for Dubai and many other Gulf ports, where communication between companies and the government may be difficult — strikes are illegal in the UAE and relations between different nationalities may be strained — Korans and Arabs do not always work together well. Investment in ro-ro tonnage and multi-purpose ships will reduce the manpower needed at the ports, however, resulting in diversification into other labour intensive areas and increased use of subcontracted personnel.

**Sea-air**  
Dubai has been challenging as the Middle East hub for sea-air cargo, which peaked in 1988. The emirate has a flexible customs authority, a port and an airport both well served by international operators, and shipping and airlines willing to co-operate to mutual benefit.

In the spring of 1988, between 60 and 70 agents were offering sea-air possibilities, but as rates rose when aircraft were filled this fell to a more realistic 15 agents with only four remaining fully committed to sea-air. One of these, Gulf Agency Freight from the Gulf Agency Company fold, claims to have covered over half of all such business in 1988.

The sea-air sector over Port Rashid and Dubai International Airport is maturing. From 8,500 tonnes carried in 1986 and 16,500 in 1987, last year saw 16,800 tonnes and an increase of only five per cent is expected in 1989.

**Challenge**  
Although the port and airport at Singapore became both the model and the challenge for Dubai, it is now more likely that Dubai will retain only a regional importance. Cargo from the Far East to Europe has been deterred by the longer sea passage to the Middle East and by the rising freight rates.

# Saudi port shows decline in non-oil cargoes

THE Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Ports Authority published its annual statistics for 1988 recently, once again illustrating the dominance of its major Red Sea port at Jeddah over Dammam and Jubail in the Gulf and Yanbu and Giza on the Red Sea. It is a most detailed examination of the nation's external economy and includes facts such as 9,499 camels were discharged at Jeddah during the year, and that 770 tonnes of vehicle spare parts were landed at Jubail. More importantly the annual comparisons for commodities such as cement at all ports show a rise from 9.2m tonnes in 1979 to 15.3m tonnes in 1983.

thereafter a rapid decline to 684,000 tonnes in 1988. Similarly building materials rose from 5.7m tonnes in 1979 to peak in 1982 at 11.5m tonnes but fell back to 3.3m tonnes last year. As a direct consequence, total throughput of inbound cargo at Saudi ports, which climbed from 24.3m tonnes to peak in 1983 at almost 41m tonnes, now stands at 18.6m tonnes after several years of consistent decline.

**Dramatic**

Nowhere can the changes in the economy be so dramatic as in Jeddah. Among the 58 berths on offer are a container terminal, bulk grain and edible oil

facilities, a reefer depot and a specialised livestock terminal which is believed to be the largest of its kind in the world. The port has 59 warehouses with a covered area of 400,000 m<sup>2</sup>. A new 21-storey port administration and training complex, and a 134m high control tower equipped with the latest navigation equipment are under construction. All these facilities are destined to be massively under-utilised. Of the national total, Jeddah handled 13.8m tonnes of cargo in 1988, split between 11.3m discharged and 2.5m loaded. Even the pilgrim throughput, for which the port acts as reception facility during the Hajj, has fallen to

563,000 and many of these are destined to join the users of the extensive and impressive airport facility not far distant.

The import figure includes 3m tonnes of grain, 2.7m tonnes in containers and 2.1m tonnes as general cargo. Smaller volumes are covered in the cement, reefer and multi-purpose areas. Western Europe provided the bulk of building materials and foodstuffs, but North American grain and Far Eastern construction materials took a major share. Japanese and Korean vehicles dominate.

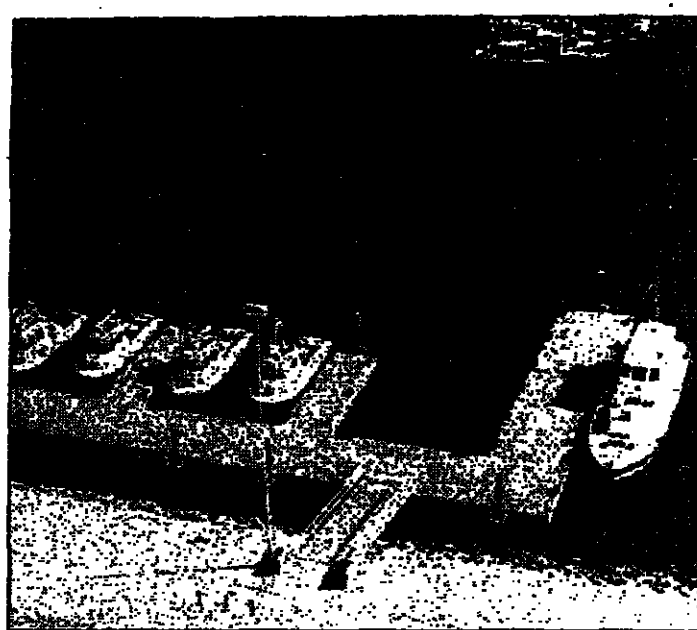
Cargoes exported from Jeddah included 1.275m tonnes of wheat destined for Arab, Asian, and Western European

markets. The remaining tonnes were spread among petrochemicals, industrial products, empty containers and trailers, and others. Export cargoes were expected to show an increase during 1989 following the lifting of a law against transshipment of goods through Jeddah. However, the early months of the year saw few tankers due to the high cost of shipping via Jeddah, and the number of services calling at Red Sea ports elsewhere.

**Decline**

Saudi Arabia's main Middle East Gulf port is Dammam, situated across from Bahrain. Dammam handled 6.5m tonnes

in 1988, heavily tending towards cargo imported (4.6m tonnes) rather than exported (1.9m tonnes). The main areas supplying cargo for Dammam were the Far East (1.5m tonnes) and Western Europe (1m tonnes), with North American shippers close behind. Construction materials (1.3m tonnes) and foodstuffs (2m tonnes) led the figures, but the list was wider spread than at Jeddah, and included 733,000 tonnes of barley. Almost without exception cargoes through Dammam have shown the consistent decline illustrated at Jeddah, falling from a total of 14.8m tonnes in 1983 to last year's figure.

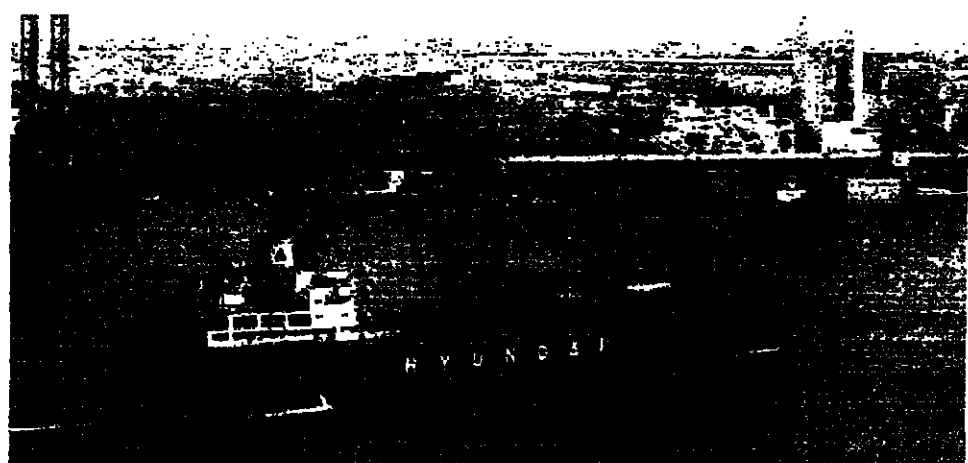


Ships docked at Jubail port.

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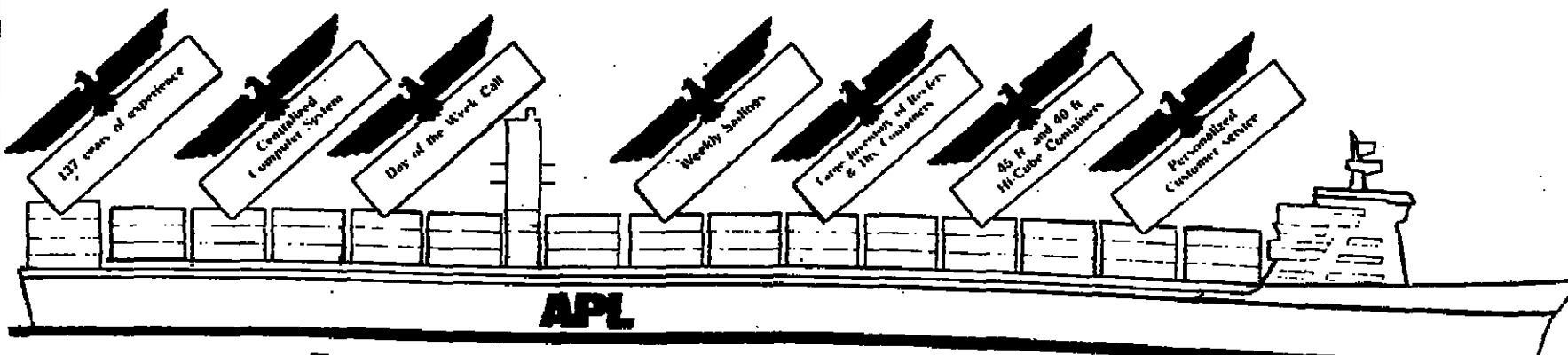
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Al Nageeb starts where everyone else stops!

## Price key factor in forwarding

THE Gulf war is over. Baghdad's hotels are reputedly brimming with savvy businessmen from the US and Japan, eager to line their pockets with fat construction contracts. The freight forwarding business should be booming (along with the rest of the economy). It's not that simple, explains Nazih Khattar, director of Al Nageeb & Khattar, one of Kuwait's longest established and respected independent freight forwarding firms.

"Iraq is in the process of re-establishing a stable infrastructure for transport. Basra and the surrounding ports are being revived to enable them to absorb the incoming influx of general cargo and container vessels."

Notwithstanding, several containers of mainly foodstuffs, have been dispatched to Iraq, and a number of sporadic contracts awarded to Kuwaiti forwarding firms. Khattar is confident that, as shipping increases in the upper Gulf, his company will have the edge on competition due to customer loyalty developed over the years — despite the ramifications of the war and ensuing economic recession.

"During the mid-eighties the tanker war severely diminished transit trade and the freight forwarding business. However, despite the difficulties, we refused to compromise our record of professional service."

A statement backed by impressive fact. In 1985, at the height of the turbulence, major contracts to Iraq included the handling of 164,000 tonnes of grain and 120,000 cubic metres of miscellaneous goods and project cargo. The opening of a transit office in Aqaba was instrumental during this period.

"We were funneling cargo bound for Iraq via Aqaba which helped us maintain our good reputation with the international forwarders."

The Jordan office remains active as a gateway from the Far East and Asia. At the same time, the company is continuing to expand its Middle East operation with a long-term

plan to establish similar branches throughout the Gulf region.

"Things just go better and swifter with the right man in the right place — at the right time..." This concept of knowledgeable, personalised service is, Khattar feels, particularly important and has helped set the company apart from the growing competition of the multi-nationals which, oddly enough, he welcomes.

"There are more and more international companies being represented in Kuwait and these are my real competition. They offer the concepts I offer and ensure that we stay abreast with international developments and technology in the field."

At the same time, Khattar stresses, there is a vital missing link in the multi-nationals make-up; namely, a thorough understanding of the mode and intricacies of business in the Gulf.

After close to a decade firmly entrenched in this volatile market, Al Nageeb & Khattar recently reinforced their premier position by establishing an office in the 'city of merchants', Dubai, due to open by the end of the month.

**'Things go better and swifter with the right man in the right place — at the right time'**

"We have a prime location in the new 'Blue Building' business complex where we will operate an integrated set up of air, sea and land transportation. As a free zone, Dubai is the heart of the airfreight industry and stepping stone between East and West."

By all accounts, this move has been carefully calculated and timely. The commercialism which permeates the city's public and private sectors has resulted in making Dubai the world's fastest growing sea-air

transshipment point, accentuated by an aggressive marketing policy and buoyant local market.

In Kuwait, Al Nageeb & Khattar is likewise expanding with the emergence, earlier this year, of a second office located opposite the Ministry of Education in Murgab. This branch exclusively caters to the company's growing air freight business which, during the last twelve months, has witnessed an unprecedented increase.

The downtown office has

**'We are funneling cargo bound for Iraq via Aqaba which helped us maintain our good reputation with international forwarders.'**

helped the company maintain a visible presence on the local market and has acquired a number of major commercial accounts, as well as being increasingly active in the freighting of personal effects; always a lucrative business in a country with a continually shifting populace.

"We are proud that, in just a few short months of airfreight export operation, we were appointed as members of the International Air Transport Association (IATA). This involves stringent assessment procedures, as well as recommendations from major airlines, including the national carrier. There are eleven IATA cargo agents in Kuwait and we are the twelfth."

International recognition is nothing new for this dynamic young company director. In 1984, Al Nageeb & Khattar was elected a full member of the International Air Shipping Association (IASA) by the general assembly in Oslo, Norway and, just one year later, Khattar was elected one of IASA's seven board members. Since his election, Khattar has played an active role in the management

of the association and is involved in locating other potential Arab IASA members. Currently, Kuwait is the only Arab member country; a situation which Khattar regrets, and hopes to change. "One of my goals is to locate other potential Arab IASA members. Eventually, we would like to have representation in every country..." Thanks to his efforts, Dahla Aviation Services of Sudan, and National Aviation Services of Egypt are invited as observers at the forthcoming General Assembly meeting in Kuwait.

Currently the association has 37 members in 34 countries.

The idea behind the 17-year-old organisation is to set up a world-wide network to enable small and medium-sized forwarders to compete with multi-nationals via pooling resources and working closely together. All the association members are locally owned companies and thus directed by experts in their own home markets. Even more importantly, they are all financially sound and stable in accordance with the strict IASA stipulations required for membership. Working closely as a network, IASA can facilitate freighting to remote places. "We start where



(Right to left): Saad Darwish, transport manager; Nazih Khattar, managing director; and Farouk Naja, airfreight manager

everyone else stops..." comments Khattar. The association holds regular General Assembly meetings and, thanks to a recommendation from Nazih Khattar, will be meeting next in Kuwait from November 18 - 23.

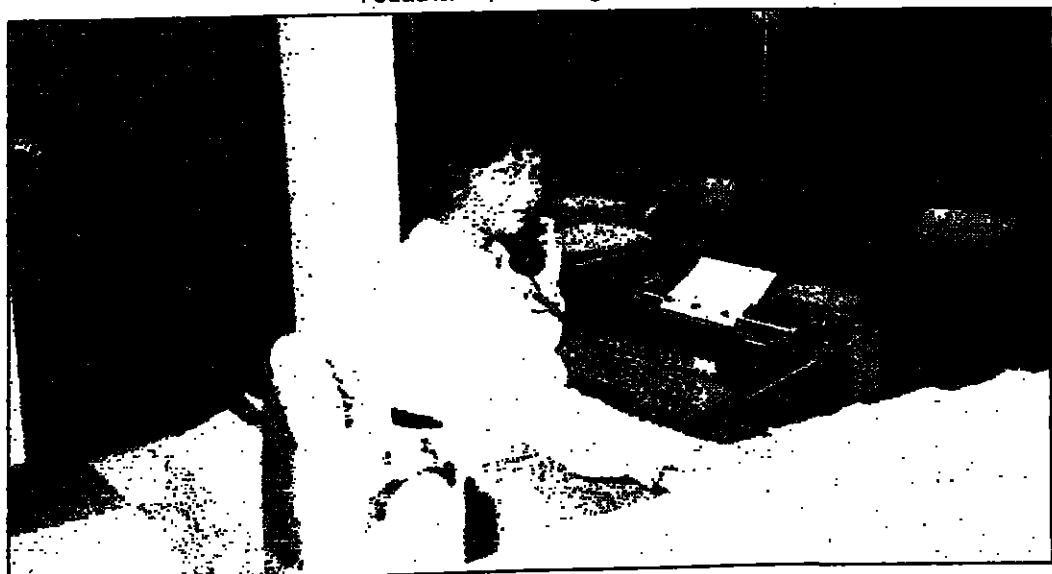
"At least one delegate from each company will be attending the meeting, many accompanied by their wives. Accordingly, Al Nageeb & Khattar will arrange a special ladies' programme to highlight interesting traditional and educational features of

Kuwait." Khattar was particularly pleased to learn that a representative from an Eastern block country was expected to attend, which constituted a milestone for the association in their bid for 'globalisation'. He said that the open EEC market in 1992

also raised a number of issues which would doubtless be discussed by delegates. "To hold the IASA General Assembly meeting in Kuwait is a great honour and, I trust, will lead to the eventual involvement of many more Arab countries..."



Foad Ishak, marketing executive.



Maria Pereira, accounts secretary.

## Asry revenue on the rise

By Sonny Abraham  
Arab Times staff

THE Opec-sponsored Arab Shipbuilding and Repair Yard Company (Asry) in Bahrain earned more than \$22 million in the first half of 1989, twice the figure for the corresponding period last year, despite stiff competition in the international and local markets.

The increased revenue is attributed to a reduction in the company's price below those of competitors in the Arabian Gulf to levels existing in South Asia.

According to Opec sources, this measure, combined with the maintenance of Asry's high standard of performance and continuous improvement in productivity, attracted a total

of 49 vessels for repair in the company's yard in the first six months of this year, compared with 34 in the corresponding period of 1988.

Figures issued by Asry indicate that its operating profits during this period touched a record level of \$5.4 million. This was partly due to savings made in operating costs and the reduction of the time taken for repairs through better planning and the introduction of a computer system.

The average occupancy of its drydock rose from 85.3 per cent in the first half of 1988 to 88.4 per cent up to June this year.

Asry's client so far this year have included shipowners from Greece, the United Kingdom,

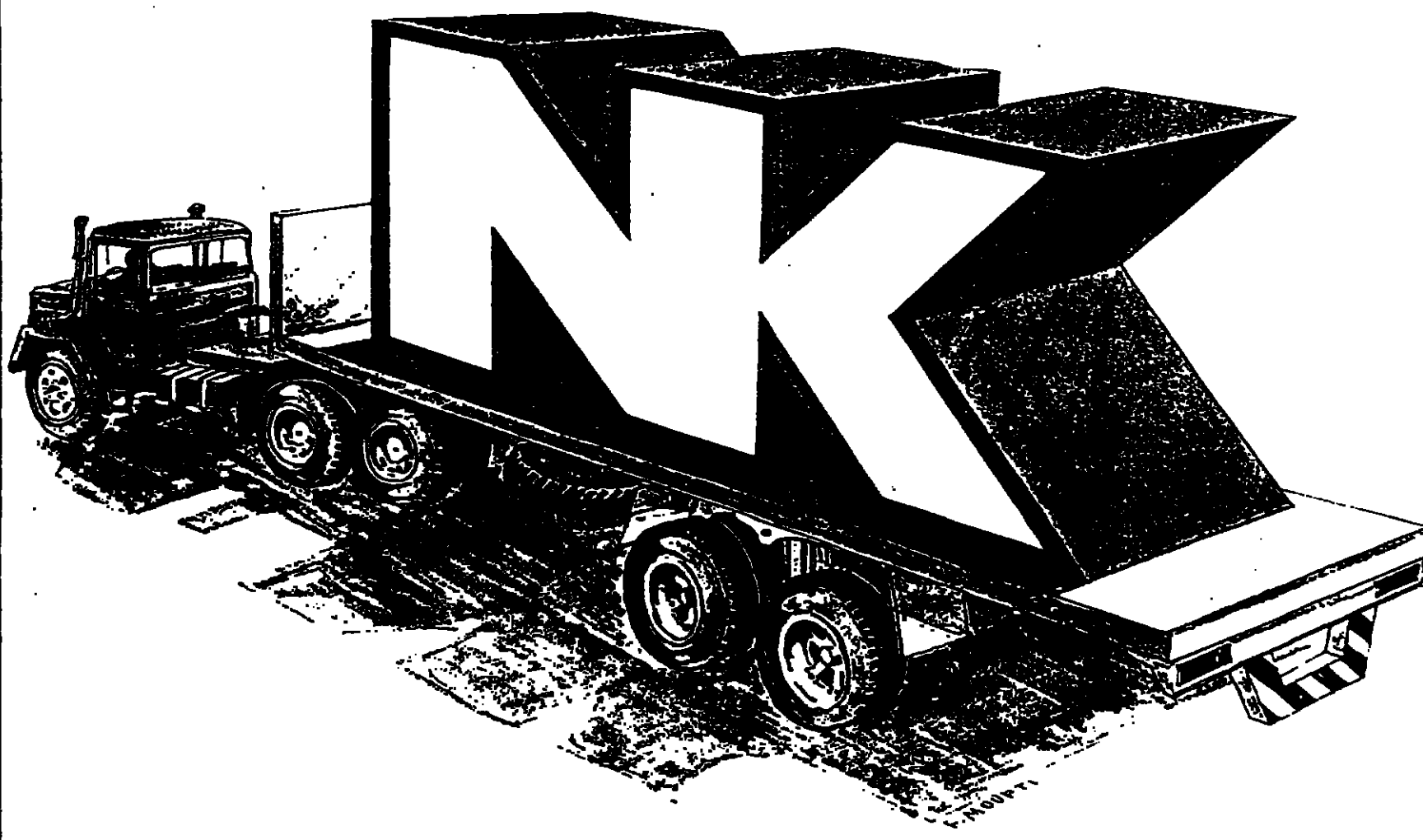
Hong Kong, Indonesia, France, Spain, Norway, West Germany, the Netherlands, Japan and the United States, besides other Arab countries.

The Bahrain-based company has already decided in principle to increase its operating capacity. A group of Asry specialists is currently conducting a feasibility study for a new drydock to reduce the pressure on the existing one.

The company's present repair facilities include a large drydock with a capacity of 500,000 dwt and four docks for alongside repairs, supplemented by modern workshops.

The new drydock is expected to have a capacity of 150,000 dwt, the sources added.

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Trico staff working on computers.

## Trico expands

By Lima Al Khalafawi  
Arab Times staff

TRICO International (FWD) Ltd Company started its shipping and forwarding operations in Kuwait in 1986. Don Jayantha Kannangara, the director of the company in Kuwait, said that Trico had initially started its business in London in 1975 and gradually the network spread to France then on to West Germany, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Oman, Bahrain (seven offices) Sri Lanka, India, Philippines, Australia and Kuwait.

He added that the backbone of business is shipping personal effects and house hold goods. Kannangara said that they are handling 50 per cent of the total services of Sri Lankan expatriates here in Kuwait. The

company has also special services for such people in Colombo called "Bonded customs warehouse."

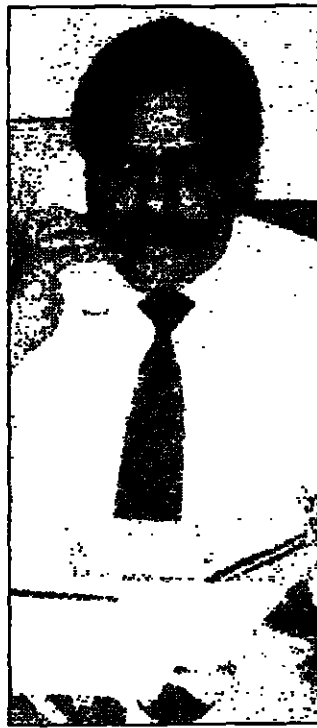
An increase in demand for the facilities offered by the company, Trico International has led to the opening of new branches in Jabra and Fahad areas.

In the Gulf countries the company has introduced a new system called the "No Kilo Business" for Filipino expatriates. "Door to Door services" is also carried on by the company.

Trico International is owned by six brothers who have offices in 18 different countries. Recently the company opened new offices in south India - Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh to service south Indians working in the Gulf area.



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Don Jayantha, director

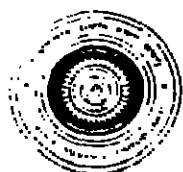
## Eyeing the Indonesian market

Singapore yards: a track record in ship repairs



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SINGAPORE shipyards, having established a good track record in ship repairs and new-buildings, are eyeing the huge Indonesian market where nearly 15 new ships are needed every year.

Top yards from the island republic are negotiating with Indonesians to set up shipyards on a joint venture basis and industry sources said some of the ventures are likely to be agreed by next year.

The Singapore yards are now competing with Japanese, Koreans and European yards for ship-repair and newbuilding contracts.

They have been very competitive price wise and provide high quality work comparable to any international shipyard.

However, to get better deal from the Indonesian ship-repair, maintenance and newbuilding business, Singapore yards have decided to set up joint venture operations with Indonesians.

Singapore's Sembawang Shipyard is in advance stage of negotiation with an Indonesian party while Keppel is also discussing the possibility of setting up shipyard in Indonesia.

A Sembawang official confirmed the company was negotiating to set up a shipyard in Indonesia.

In recent years, Keppel has set up joint venture yards in the Philippines and India.

Last year, it also acquired the Cebu Shipyard and Engineering Works Inc of Philippines.

While Indonesia has the

manpower, Singapore yards can provide technical assistance in yard management and training of supervisors, said Alan Tan, yard manager of Singapore Shipway, which has been repairing Indonesian ships here.

Tan, who has been in shipyard work for more than 20 years, noted that Indonesia remains a very promising market as the country needs to expand its merchant fleet.

Many of the local yards have been talking to the Indonesians for the past two years in anticipation of Jakarta liberalising its shipping industry.

"We can provide technical assistance in the form of setting up the yard with their facilities and manpower, and provide top level personnel to help in the management and training of supervisory staff," Tan said.

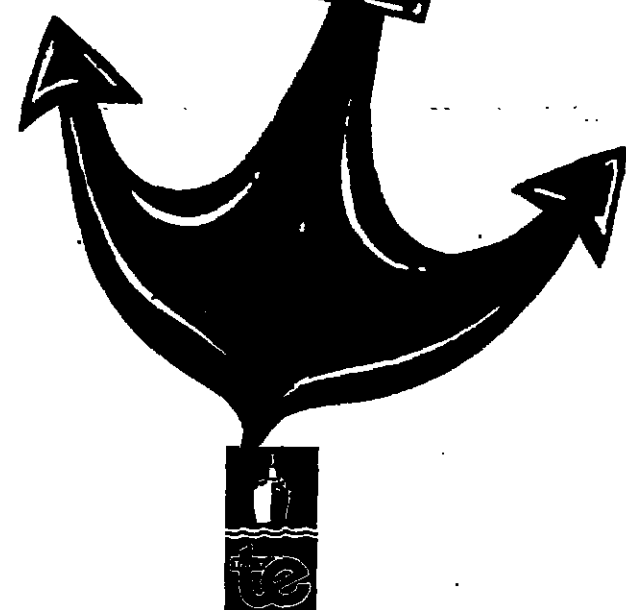
Now that the Indonesian government has liberalised its policies on repairs of vessels and newbuildings, they have to open their market to Singapore and regional yards to achieve their target for building new vessels, he added.

The Indonesians have a ready market as there are many ships plying between Indonesian islands which need repair and maintenance, he said, noting that the Indonesians have also started buying new ships.

In 1988, Singapore Shipway repaired more than 20 Indonesian vessels which accounted for about 15 per cent of the overall repair revenue of the company.

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# KLTT: No efforts spared

## Largest livestock carriers in the world

By Capt. P. Machado

LIVESTOCK Transport and Trading Co. (K.S.C.) or KLTT as the company is more popularly known has come a long way since its humble beginnings in 1973. Today the company boasts the largest sheep-carriers with the largest livestock-carrying capacity in the world. The fleet consists of 5 ships, 3 of which are combined-carriers for sheep as well as cattle. The MV Al Shuwaikh remains the flag-ship and pride of the fleet with a phenomenal capacity having carried 120,000 sheep on a single voyage from New Zealand to Saudi Arabia for haj.

KLTT's primary and most important objective is to provide the best quality of fresh meat at reasonable prices at all times to the people of Kuwait and of the Arabian Gulf states. No effort is spared to pursue both quality and variety to cater for all tastes and preferences. Although Australia is and will continue to be the major source of supply, KLTT is dynamic and selective in its choice of imports. Occasional loads are taken up from New Zealand for exclusive ram lambs and China which is renowned for its 'fat tail' sheep.

A lot has been written and

said in recent times about sheep of Australian origin and it would be interesting to follow a typical voyage from Australia to Kuwait. The company management goes out for a tender to nominated suppliers in Australia five to six weeks before actual loading date. These nominated suppliers are contracted once a year and are carefully chosen from previous experience and records, current performance and KLTT's anticipated requirements. The ships load out of Fremantle, Adelaide and Portland in Australia and different suppliers are contracted for each port for sheep as well as fodder supply.

KLTT specifies quality, type, minimum and average weights of livestock required for a particular voyage and the suppliers must match the demand. The choice of supply is based on seasonal weather, Gulf requirement, and first-hand reports from the company's own Australia-based team of quality controllers and veterinarians. The suppliers purchase sheep from various farms in Australia. Company staff will receive sheep into feedlot after a stringent drafting and selective process, then proceed to vaccinate and prepare sheep for the sea voyage.



Faisal A. Al Khozam  
Chairman & Managing Director

All sheep in Australia are raised on natural pastures, fed on grass and grain and are known to be completely free of any growth promoters or hormones, artificial feeds or chemicals of any sort. In a period of ten to fourteen days, the diet regimen is changed from grass and hay to the ship-board feed of sheep cubes which is really a mixture of hay, barley, straw, oats, lupins and molasses — once again a one hundred per cent natural foods diet.

KLTT's investment in Australia consists of a feedlot in W. Australia whilst feedlots in Adelaide and Portland are leased. The company owns a fodder-producing mill in Portland and all operations are controlled through the Perth Office. Quality control is ensured by dedicated and well-experienced staff who daily inspect animals held in the feedlot. Prior to actually boarding ship, the animals are once again inspected and drafted by Australian government health and animal quarantine authorities to ensure all animals loaded are in good, sound and healthy condition. These authorities will also ensure that the health protocol, required by Kuwait authorities as well as other Gulf states importing sheep on that particular voyage, have been strictly followed and issue a health certificate in this regard.

The ship itself is thoroughly inspected by the Australian animal quarantine authorities to ensure absolute cleanliness and by the DOT surveyors to ensure that all livestock fittings and sustenance system are well maintained to the highest standards and safety is high up in KLTT's list of priorities. Pen construction and arrangement, livestock handling facilities as well as automated fodder and water systems are designed to provide optimum comfort and ease stress on the animals. Ventilation systems provide fresh air far in excess of basic requirements and in fact most systems far exceed the strict rules of livestock carriage and ship design as laid down by the GCC and Australian authorities.



Capt. Peter Machado  
Fleet manager

Whilst at sea, the animals are tended to by experienced stockmen and although sustenance systems are automatic, the big ships carry a total shipboard complement of seventy. The condition of the animals is monitored closely by the ship-board team of long-serving and knowledgeable officers and more often than not, a veterinarian will serve aboard as well. The ship is in daily contact with company's shore-based technical staff in Kuwait and Australia and information is exchanged and acted upon to cope with the vagaries of

weather, seas, wind or the lack of it, fodder consumption and diet, humidity and general condition of animals.

Continuous research is conducted in regard to improving ship-board systems and shore-based systems and KLTT is a well known pioneer of the trade in the Arabian Gulf and Australian circles. On arrival Kuwait, the animals are checked by Kuwait authorities prior permission is given to discharge. In Kuwait the animals are once again inspected, drafted and vaccinated prior transportation to KLTT's Sulaybiya feedlot.

It may come as a surprise to most that KLTT's Sulaybiya feedlot is in fact the largest sheep feedlot in the world. It consists of 153 covered sheds and can hold in excess of 200,000 sheep at any one time. It is spread over four million square metres on land and also houses two fodder-producing mills and an enormous fleet of road-transport vehicles consisting of sheep-transport vehicles, reefer trucks, feedlot service vehicles and a host of others. Given Kuwait's harsh terrain and weather, the feedlot comes as an amazing yet pleasant surprise to most visitors.

At the farm, the Kuwait-based animal technicians and veterinarians take over to ensure the animals are maintained in prime condition. This consists of repeated inspections and drafting, disease-control and vaccinations, and adjustment of food-intake diets and regimen. Dependence on local market demand, quantities of sheep are eventually transported daily to the local live-sale markets at Fahaheel, Al Rai and other live-sale markets or to the local slaughter-house. Even at the slaughter-house, the animals and carcasses are inspected by Kuwait municipal veterinarians to verify and



Sheep being loaded into ships

ensure that only good healthy meat enters the market.

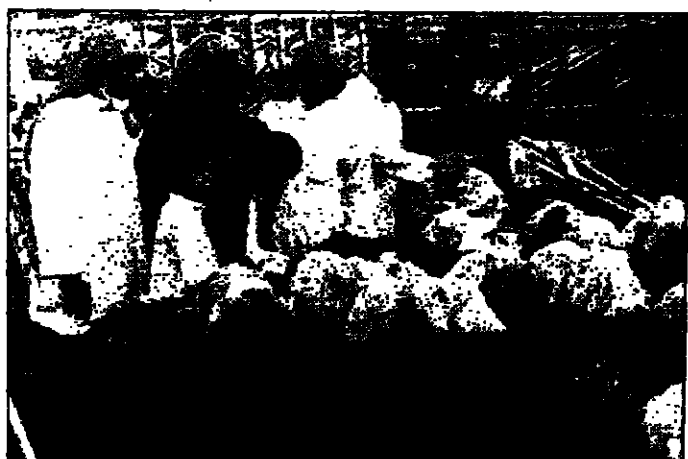
In running such an extensive yet closely integrated operation, KLTT can virtually guarantee the quality of the final product as the standard of quality-control is very high. Most staff members have been serving with the company since its inception and experience is the commodity most voiced by KLTT. The company transports in excess of 2.6 million sheep and cattle per year of which 1.2 million are for Kuwait alone. The rest is distributed between the other GCC states and on occasion to

N. African countries through the company's chartering activities. The ships are occasionally available on time or voyage charter terms.

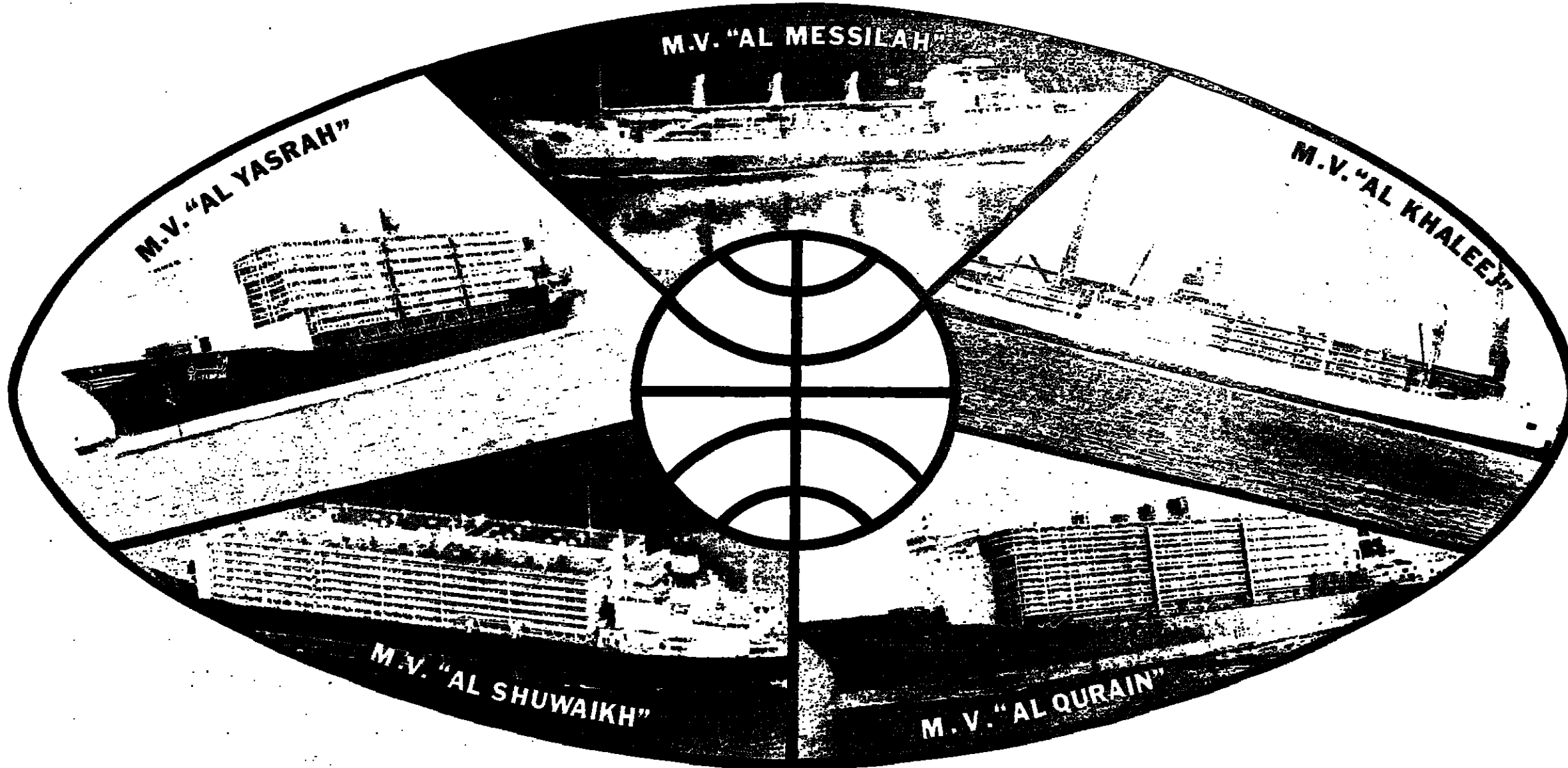
Within Kuwait itself, KLTT has numerous activities conducted by the trading side of the company. At the feedlot, considerable research has been conducted and achieved in an attempt to improve the quality of meat by cross-breeding local Arabian sheep with European, Australian and Chinese breeds. Another success story has been the research into nutritional aspects of livestock.

The meat factory at

Shuwaikh has a current processing capacity in excess of four tonnes per day and markets finished products such as salami, mortadella, hamburgers, mince and frankfurters. Other delicacies are also packed and sold at KLTT's special meat supermarkets at Shuwaikh, Ahmadi and at special corners at the co-ops in Kuwait. For the discerning customer, there is a fine selection of chilled and frozen meats from the world over imported by the purchasing office. The company even exports processed meat to GCC countries and to Bahrain in particular.



Customers choose sheep from a live-sales centre here in Kuwait.



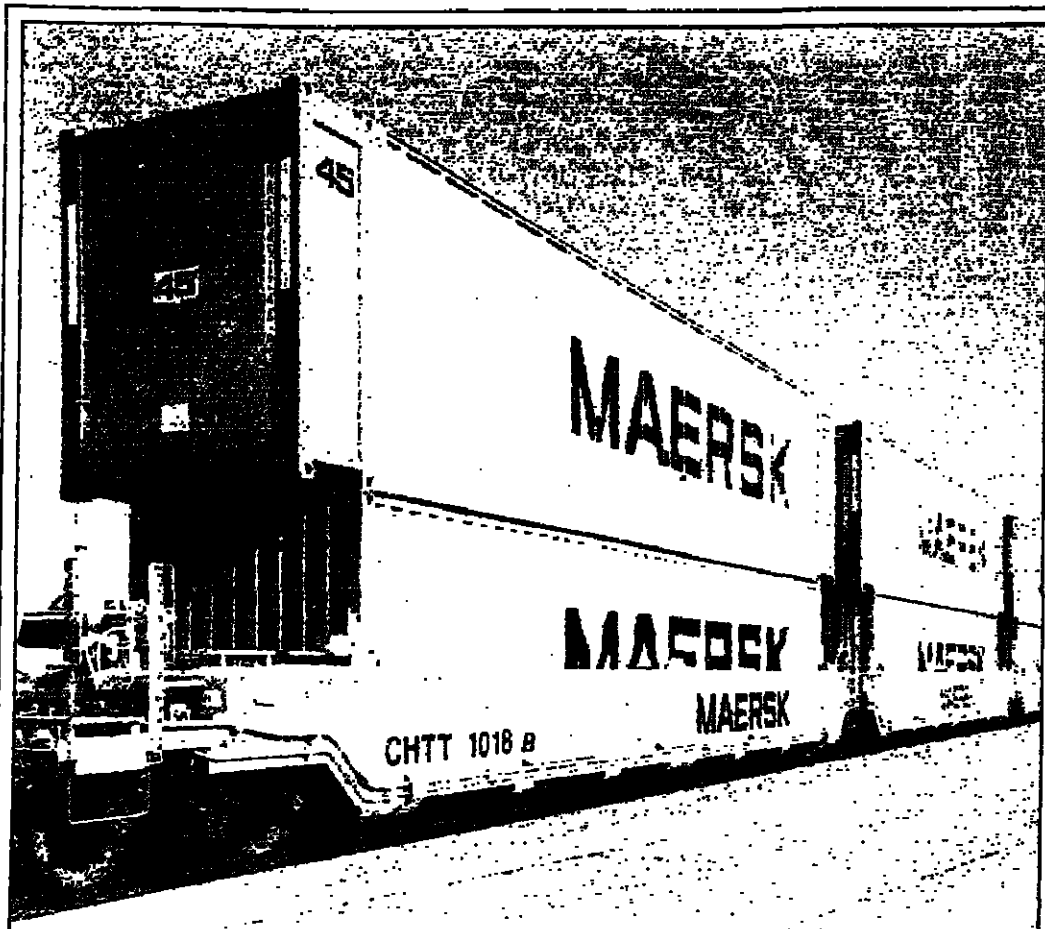
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## Containers with a cause

THE Danish shipowning company A. P. Moller/Maersk recently took delivery of the second 254,000 tonnes dead-weight tanker vessel from Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. Ltd. Korea.

The Niels Maersk is a sister-ship to the Nicoline Maersk delivered to A. P. Moller only two months ago, also from Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. Ltd. in Korea.

A total of 10 vessels have been ordered by the A.P. Moller group at Hyundai

which makes A. P. Moller/Maersk Line one of the largest customers of the Korean shipbuilding industry.

In addition to the order for new vessels, A.P. Moller/Maersk Line have placed an order for more than 27,000 containers with Korean suppliers.

One of the reasons for having ordered this high number of containers is the growth in the line's traffic between the Far East and Europe. Also in this trade Maersk Line offers a weekly service with fast transit

times, speedy and accurate documentation, experienced and dedicated staff — factors which are common for all Maersk Line's services around the world.

The A. P. Moller/Maersk group is one of the world's largest shipping enterprises with a fleet of more than 125 vessels. The fleet comprises container vessels, tankers, bulkers, gas-carriers and other special vessels. It also includes vessels for the off-shore oil industry and a number of drilling rigs.

## Mideast challenges Singapore ship repairs

The concentration of shiprepairing facilities in the Middle East has developed into a real challenge for Singapore. The two big yards, Arab Shipbuilding and Repair Yard (ASRY) in Bahrain and Dubai Drydocks, have struggled manfully against the limitations imposed upon them by the Iran-Iraq war, and now have begun to announce their real potential. The smaller yards of Saudi Arabia, in Dammam and Jeddah Ship Repair Yard, are working against the social limitations imposed by the country's government, but nevertheless manage to keep the facilities occupied. In the north, Kuwait Ship Repair Yard, which was even more restricted in its activities by the war, hopes that Iraq's plans for shipping in the Basra, Khor al Zubair and Umm Qasr area will boost its fortunes. Signs are that owners have begun to compare the Middle East with South East Asia, and for vessels headed westwards the deviation to Singapore for repairs is no longer so obvious.

It is not possible to catalogue those vessels which would have called at yards in the Gulf for repairs but were discouraged by hostilities. Yet figures for the first six months of 1989 speak of a major upturn in enquiry, dock occupancy and revenue. ASRY has reported a \$5.4m profit for the period to June, repairing 49 vessels compared with 34 in the corresponding period of 1988, with occupancy up from 85.3 per cent to 88.4 per cent. The list includes five VLCCs, with 291,350 dwt Pegasus I requiring several hundred tonnes of steel work, and Bergesen, Peninsular Maritime and Argonaut also represented. ASRY has been able to multi-dock up to four small vessels in the 500,000dwt graving dock, keeping owners who do not favour this method of service happy by sticking to

quoted repair times. Productivity has risen sharply following the restructuring of the workforce and the introduction of more specialist technicians and, through the investment in new equipment, blasting and painting times have been reduced with consequent savings in docking time and expense. ASRY believes the Middle East has a solid future in repairing and has commissioned a feasibility study with a view to making an investment in a graving dock of up to 150,000 dwt capacity which would greatly reduce the pressure on existing facilities.

Dubai Drydocks is equally optimistic about the future of the Middle East, although there are no immediate plans for new dock investment. There the first six months of the year saw 79 ships repaired and drydocked, aggregating 10m tonnes and an average dwt of 126,600. Business so far in 1989 has increased 39 per cent on last year when 142 ships were docked including 50 VLCCs and VLCCs of 15.5m dwt, which was itself a 22 per cent jump on the year before. The manager's office has a photograph of the yard taken in October when a record 2.6m dwt of tonnage was being worked on. As in Bahrain investment in new plant, equipment and mechanical aids have made some inroads into the cost of labour, but 300 skilled men have been taken on, bringing the total to 1,300 full-time and 500 sub-contracted labour. A dock occupancy of about 95 per cent is as close to completely full as possible, given the need to move ships into and out of dock.

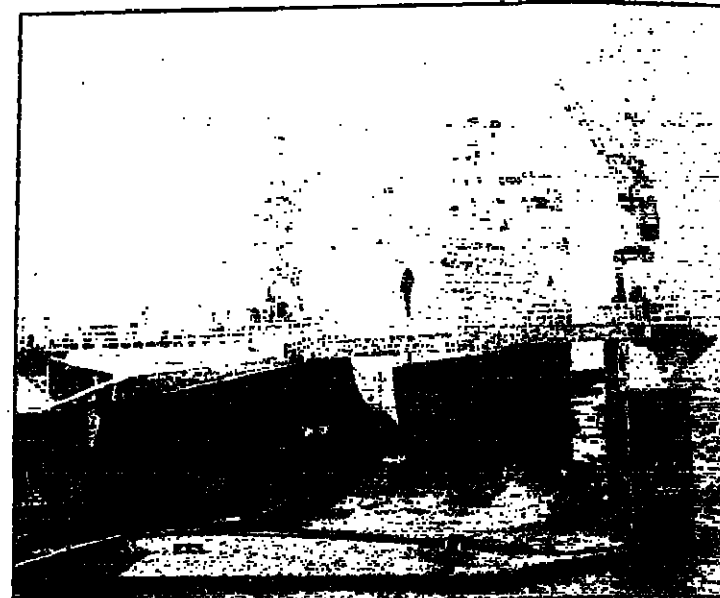
The three VLCC docks at Dubai, combined with updated equipment, additional manpower and the experience gained from several years of conflict has meant that for vessels steaming towards eastern ports the price

difference has been narrowed to around 25 per cent higher than Singapore. For vessels destined for Western destinations the Middle East has captured much business which would have gone to high cost European yards. The yard has a comfortable cushion of six weeks' bookings: 75 per cent to mid-October, and even a firm contract for a vessel in December. The turnaround from a little over a year ago has been dramatic, but both Bahrain and Dubai have shown themselves flexible enough to take on new ideas.

### Overcoming misconceptions

In Jeddah the Saudi government built a shiprepair facility alongside the commercial port, and offered the management out to overseas tender. The first five years saw Koreans in charge. They oversaw a period of declining repair and increasing project work. The second five-year tender was won by a management team named National Maintenance and Marine Services Co, a combination of British and Singapore managers, and Sri Lankan, Filipino and Thai labour. Limited by the dock dimensions, the new team spent 1988 putting their plans into operation and by mid-1989 claim to be reasonably well occupied. The customers include local tonnage, with some old ex-European passenger ferries used on Red Sea runs, 28 tugs belonging to the ports of Jeddah, Yanbu and Giza, some cranes and pollution control equipment. The facilities available at the yard have been put to valuable non-marine use: Pipe-work, welding, fitting and electrical work for the local market. Jeddah's position makes the repairing of tankers possible, but not in dock. The yard has been encouraging an on-board repair team for these ships.

The real difficulty for the Saudi yard is not the limitations



Ship hauled in for repairs.

of dock or equipment, but owners' and managers' misconceptions about Saudi Arabia itself. The management assured Fairplay that work is performed on Fridays and holy days, that internationally acceptable contracts cover terms and conditions, and that ships are delivered on time. Problems arise, however, on unplanned work as there are restrictions on sub-contracted labour; in consequence the yard employs extra labour to cope with peak periods. Given the considerable competition in the repair business in the Gulf, and lack of it in the Red Sea, the potential for the Jeddah Ship Repair Yard is healthy. Now that the groundwork for the five-year term has been laid, management is more confident.

Smaller repair facilities are also hoping for a boost in their fortunes post-war. The Bahrain Ship Repairing and Engineering Company (Basrec) celebrated its 25th anniversary in 1988. The yard has survived the hostilities

by servicing supply vessels for the offshore sector, and has made good use of a 3,000 tonne floating dock which had been purchased in 1983 for medium size coasters and deep sea ships. This dock has been particularly valuable for work moved over from the custom-built slipways when these were fully occupied. The floating dock is 390 ft long and 60 ft wide. The average vessel docked since 1983 is 1,800 dwt.

The yard boasts a fully equipped machine shop and company divers, and can handle all types of steelwork, mechanical and electrical repairs, carpentry and shipwright work.

Basrec was opened in 1963 and is wholly owned in Bahrain. Profits of BD707,774 were achieved in 1988, more than double 1987's BD276,162. At the beginning of May it was announced that Basrec intends to set up a container repair yard, and that increased efforts will be made to market the company's services.

## Cheerful outlook for Dubai drydocks

There is good news for the world shiprepair industry in recently published statistics which say that 73 per cent of the world's tanker tonnage, including oil/chemical tankers, is 10 years of age or more.

Coupled with the fact that the price of new ships has risen dramatically in the last 12 months, the conclusion is cheerful: Maintaining old vessels is commercially more viable than replacing them; the favourable spin-off on shiprepairers in the short to medium term is therefore obvious.

If that is good news for the world shiprepair industry, it may be potentially better news for ship-repairers in Dubai, the maritime capital of the Gulf.

As ES Ware, chief executive, Dubai Drydocks — regarded by many as the premier drydock in the region — told S&TN: There was a time in the not too distant past when many ships went in ballast to Singapore for repairs and came back in ballast to the Gulf for loading.

"But now it would be reasonable to expect more and more ships to avail themselves of repair facilities here itself, because the recent 10 per cent price increase in Singapore shiprepair yards, increases the cost competitiveness of Dubai Drydocks."

Cost of course is not the only factor that shipowners consider in choosing a shiprepair yard.

Quality and reliability in addition to good turnaround times are among the other

### Facts about Dubai drydocks

A government-owned enterprise, Dubai Drydocks consists of three ULCC drydocks.

Situated within its own private port with direct access from the sea, it has a total area of 200 hectares, well protected by breakwaters that ensure safe manoeuvring alongside the berths and into the dry docks. Tugs are readily available.

The yard has berthing quays with a total length of 2,900 metres. These are provided with cranes of 15, 20, 25, 50 and 100 tonnes.

The maximum draft allowed at all berths is 11.5 metres. Power supply, fire mains and water supply are provided at all the berths.

- Dock No 1: 370m x 66m x 12m
- Dock No 2: 535m x 100m x 12m
- Dock No 3: 415m x 80m x 12m

Offshore drilling, construction and marine services companies form a large part of the Drydocks' clientele.

A very wide range of services provided included painting, water washing and grit blasting, machinery work (its machine shop is believed to be

important factors.

"Dubai Drydocks' record in these aspects is excellent. Add to it the fact that the yard is only six-years-old now, which means it is a very new facility

the largest and most advanced of its kind in the Middle East; steel work; pipe work; sling manufacturing; carpentry; storing and stocking of shipbuilding steel plate and profiles, pipes and associate fittings; electrical engineering; hot bath galvanising; tank cleaning and facilities such as offices, warehousing, showrooms, workshops and storage space in fully-serviced buildings at the Drydocks Estate which is located strategically between Port Rashid and Dubai Drydocks.

Dubai Drydocks is also equipped with a computer network comprising more than 30 workstations located throughout the yard and available round the clock to log details of manhours and materials in use, speeding up the finalisation of invoices for customers.

Computers also cover management information, stock control and accounting, and costing.

Dubai Drydocks also has a laboratory which is the only of its kind between Europe and the Far East. It covers all areas of oilfield, marine and industrial examinations in the Gulf.

equipped with all that is latest in the industry.

"So we score in every aspect which a shipowner considers," Ware said.

This also applies in varying

extents to other ship-repair yards in the region.

There is yet more good news for shiprepairers in the Gulf: The end of the Iran-Iraq war last August. Logically, the risk of war damage could be deemed favourable to the business. But the elimination of this risk will not cause a depressant effect.

As Ware explained: "During the war, we could quantify the amount of business which we got directly as a result of the hostilities; but there was no way to quantify the business we lost for the same reason."

"Quite obviously, peace in the Gulf means we will not get the war-created business, but peace brings into play wider forces that augurs well."

The wider forces are naturally those associated with the return of normality to Gulf shipping. The end of war not only eradicated risk, but also sent insurance premia nosediving. Shipowners and crew have therefore resumed freely sailing into the Arabian Gulf waters.

The increase in post-war shipping therefore promises an increase in the normal demand for shiprepair services. Coupled with the increased price competitiveness due to a lull in fees in Singapore yards, the ageing of the world's tanker fleet and the high cost of new ships, all combine to create a cheerful outlook for shiprepairers in the Gulf, and especially for the region's shipping capital which is Dubai.

Dubai Drydock's performance justifies Ware's con-



Ship repairing facilities provided in Dubai.

fidence: It registered a 20 per cent increase in the volume of work handled during the accounting year ended 28 February 1989.

And in the last two months, the company increased its workforce by 200 to total 1,100 now.

In the first 10 months of fiscal 1988-89, Dubai Drydocks handled 123 vessels totalling 12.3 million dwt compared to 100 vessels and 9.3 million dwt in the corresponding period of 1987.

New tonnage records were also set in 1988: in June, 2.2

million dwt of shipping was under repair at one time, breaking the previous record by nearly 100,000 dwt. This was again well broken last October when a new high of 2.6 million dwt was achieved.

Improved prospects also bring in increased competition. As Ware said in a company newsletter: "We can be proud of our achievements in 1988, but at the same time recognise that tough challenges lie ahead of us in this competitive business of repairing ships."

The competition arises from the existence of several shiprepair yards in the region.

In Dubai itself, for instance, there are at least 10 major shiprepair companies and a host of specialist sub-contractors.

The giant among shiprepairers of course is Dubai Drydocks which is capable of handling up to one million dwt and has three docks, the largest of which is 525m x 100m x 12m.

On a smaller scale but no less sophisticated is the Dubai Ship Docking Yard, popularly known as Al Jadaf, in the creek.

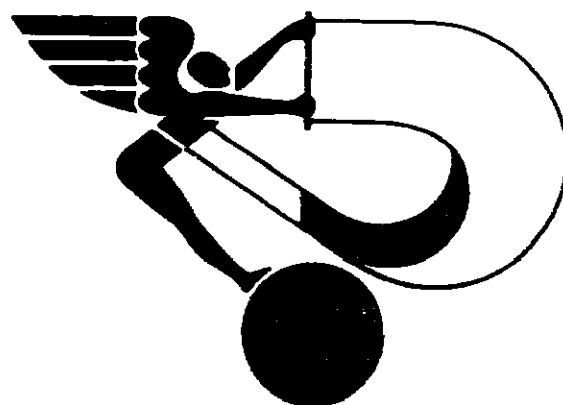
With its Syncrolift facilities, it offers comprehensive services to coastal and traditional ves-

sels up to 2,500 tonnes. There are several other shiprepairing companies in Dubai and elsewhere in the UAE.

Providing essential support in every area of shiprepair and maintenance are diving companies able to undertake the full range of underwater work.

Six classification societies now have offices in Dubai ensuring vessels and their equipment meet statutory requirements. In fact, the existence of all such companies in Dubai is one reason that has contributed to Dubai's pride of place on the region's shipping scene.

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# Shipping lines: silent innovations

## Chief mode of global cargo transport

IN the battle of sea vs sea-air the lines are clearly drawn. For speed sea-air wins hands down but on cost sea remains the clear favourite. But it is not always that simple as Saby Ganguly examines in this report compiled from Dubai.

What does multimodal transport mean for shipping lines? In sea-air transport, voyage through sea accounts for about half the distance after which the skies take over.

If aircraft was not to come on the scene, the entire transportation would have been by sea. In that case the shipping industry would have earned revenue for the entire length from the port of discharge; whereas it now earns just about half the revenue for just about half the distance.

Does this mean that advances in the efficiency of international cargo transportation have left the shipping industry a loser of sorts?

Various factors come into consideration in this context. As one shipping agent in Sharjah told STN: "On the face of it, yes. Shipping lines have lost potential business to airlines because of the growth of sea-air freight."

Yet, if you consider the overall volume of international cargo, the proportion handled by the combined mode is negligible. Sea has always been the chief

mode of global cargo transport and continues to be so.

Besides, as the spokesman for a Dubai-based shipping agency said: "Airlines did not rob cargo away from the sea. The kind of cargo that dominates sea-air freight is of relatively new origin."

Say even about 15 years ago, there were not as many consumer electronic items, garments, toys, etc. being transported between the Far East and the West as now.

The emergence of such light and high-value items on the international trade scene more or less coincided with the growth of sea-air cargo. Therefore, sea-air freight was a new market in its own right rather than a splinter from the traditional cargo market.

"Sea has always been the chief mode of global cargo transport and continues to be so."

"A lot of cargo in the category that normally forms most of sea-air cargo is also sea-freighted across the entire distance."

"So while airlines have benefited from the development of sea-air freight in the last 10 to 15 years, shipping lines have also got extra business."

Be that as it may, sea freight forwarders are no doubt interested in transforming what now goes as sea-air cargo into purely sea freight.

In keeping with the age-old adage of necessity being the mother of invention, shipping lines are silently innovating services, which would hopefully reduce the disadvantage gap between conventional sea freight and sea-air sea freight and thereby improve the marketability of the former vis-a-vis the latter. How?

"It's simple," says the shipping agency spokesman. "Sea-air traffic has grown by virtue of the time and cost advantages it offers."

"If shipping lines, on their own, are able to reduce their time lag — which is the greatest disadvantage of conventional sea freight — they will have made it after all cost of sea-transport is any day much less than that of air transport."

The shipbuilding industry has indeed made some headway which, in effect, increases the competitiveness of sea freight to sea-air freight.

"A consignment originating from Hong Kong and destined for Europe would now take about 24 days by sea and 12 days by the combined mode."

"Today some shipping lines have equipped themselves with high-speed ships with 22-24 knots per hour. Such ships

would take 18 to 20 days to sail from Far East to Europe.

"Juxtapose 12 days and the additional cost by sea-air, with the 18-20 days and much lower cost by high-speed sea transport, and you will find that the latter is not a bad bargain."

"The extra three to five days taken by high-speed ships are more than offset by the huge savings in cost."

Many shipping lines and operators from the Far East to Europe and the US west coast have decided to include high-speed ships which they ply between the Far East and the US.

In addition, as the spokesman says, shipping lines are now increasingly starting weekly services which is a benefit to traders wanting faster transportation.

"Thus with faster ships and higher service frequency, shipping agencies are now in a stronger position to convince traders of the economics of sea freight."

There can a fall-out from sea-air to sea, and though this can affect airlines and airports, the position of Dubai as a re-export centre will remain unaltered," said the Dubai-based shipping agent.

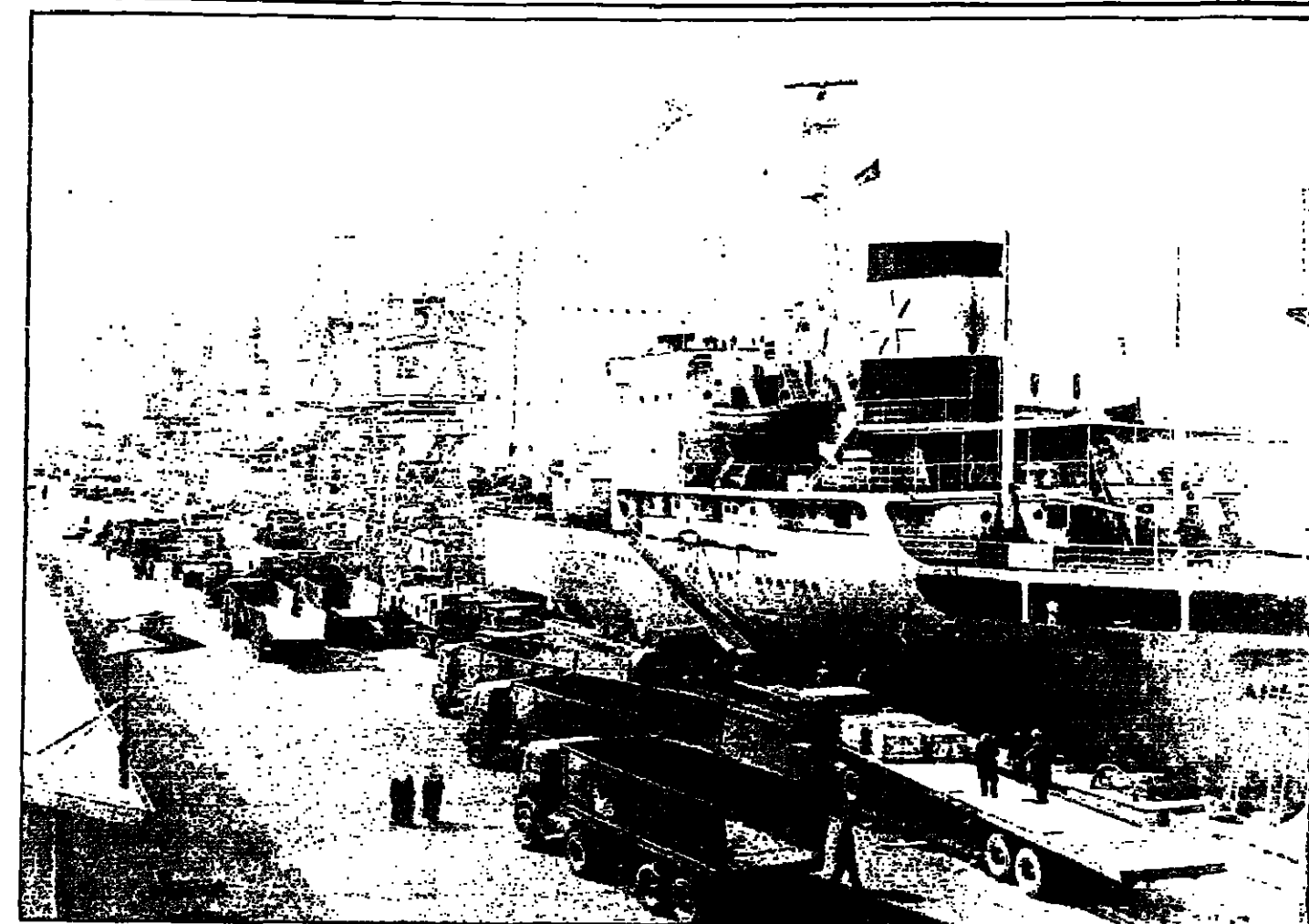
"Shipping lines are silently innovating services, which would hopefully reduce the disadvantage gap between conventional sea freight and sea-air sea freight..."

"One shipping agency, which handled as much as 210 tonnes of sea-air cargo in March 1988, has now stopped sea-air business and is concentrating only on sea freight."

According to a spokesman of this agency, the decision to stop sea-air freight handling was dictated by an "unduly long time for payment to come in."

"As agents at the transit point which in our case is Dubai, we were required to pay the airline and sometimes even the shipping line."

"The money came back to us only after the consignment reached the destination. But as we did not have our own office at the destination, we could not vigorously chase for the



Goods being loaded onto a ship docked at one of Kuwait's ports

payment. "And when the payment was received some months later, the margin of not more than 15 per cent was not attractive enough given the time our investment remained blocked. So we stopped sea-air altogether and instead concentrated only on shipping."

However, agencies which have their own offices at the destination point are well placed to derive benefits from sea-air freight handling, the spokesman clarified.

Though there are such agencies in Dubai, there are others who don't have the advantage of having their own offices at destinations of consignments. It is these agencies which are more keen on sea freight forwarding and the advent of high-speed ships has added to their marketing arsenal.

If not having an office at the destination is a disadvantage for sea-air freight forwarding, why should it not be the same for sea

freight forwarding?

The spokesman said: "In sea freight forwarding, you can use a shipping line agency to chase for payment at the destination, or even obtain a bill of lading from a shipping line at your own location."

"This is not possible with airlines who will carry your cargo only if you pay them and will not in any way assist you in recovering your money at the destination. Shipping lines can and do act as your agents, airlines don't."

Though the sea cargo forwarders are therefore gearing up to divert more freight from sea-air routes to sea routes, this is no major challenge for air freight.

For example, an increasing number of importers world-wide are realising the advantages of limited imports from re-export centres like Dubai, instead of bulk imports from a country of origin.

Operating from a redistribution centre enables faster res-

ponse to the vicissitudes of the market, speedy delivery, elimination of over-stocking as well as the possibility of running out of stocks, reduction of operating costs etc.

Companies wanting to import from re-export centres are generally in a hurry to replenish stocks.

"And for 'hurry-up' cargo, ships are no match for aircraft," says a protagonist of sea-air freight.

High-speed ships will bring down a Far East Europe voyage time to 18 - 20 days compared with 24 days by conventional ships. Even if one takes the lower estimate of 18 days, it is still six days more than the time taken by sea-air through the UAE.

For traders importing from re-export centres, that is a substantial length of time, thereby making air freight a better choice; airlines can deliver in less than 24 hours.

As regards the problem of not having own office at a destina-

tion, sea-air forwarders can form consortia to reduce costs of operating offices at consignment destinations and simultaneously being able to chase payments.

Just as shipping lines, airlines are also beeing up to meet the trade demands. Most significant are the marketing tie-ups between some major Western and Far Eastern airlines which can only boost air freight or sea-air freight on a global scale.

As a shipping agency source said, sea freight still accounts for more than 60 per cent of the kind of cargo that is transported by the combined mode.

"Shipping remains the number one freight mode in terms of volume and weight; airlines cannot threaten shipping lines as far as freight is concerned, just as shipping lines cannot match airlines in the field of passenger transport."

Nevertheless a little more business would not be unwelcome for either shipping companies or airlines.

## Skypak Rush...ian services

TNT Skypak, the leading international express delivery organisation, has announced one of its biggest ever initiatives with news of an exclusive joint operating agreement with the Russian airline Aeroflot and its subsidiary Aeroservice.

The partnership, which is to be called TNT Aeroservice and includes a cargo terminal at Sheremetro International Airport, introduces a unique express delivery service into and from the Soviet Union from September 4.

For the first time ever a collection services will be provided in Moscow, Leningrad and Kiev. Currently no company offers a freight collection service in these

major Russian cities. Customers have to take their freight to the airport and have no guaranteed delivery times.

It is certain that the delivery service will extend to other parts of the Soviet Union using the larger Aeroflot networks of internal flights.

Initially four liveried TNT Aeroflot vehicles will be used for ground operations in Moscow. The vehicles were transported to the Russian capital by air from Hanover.

TNT Skypak is one of the world, leading international express delivery organisations. It provides a highly reliable range of fast, secure and efficient

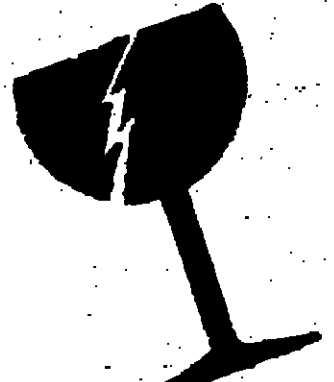
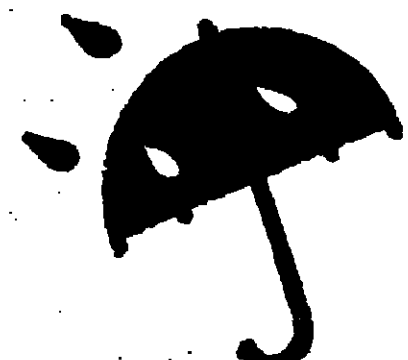
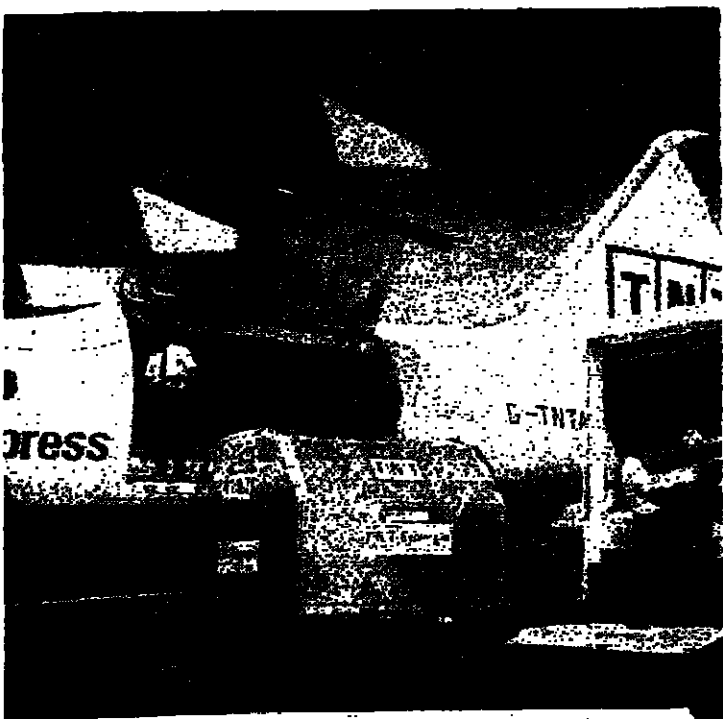
express services to 184 countries worldwide. TNT Skypak was formed in 1969 as a company providing a service between Japan and Australia. It has become a part of the TNT transportation group via acquisition and take-over.

TNT is a multimodal, fully integrated transport group with a major presence throughout the world. It is involved in a wide range of highly diverse activities such as parcel delivery, newspapers delivery, shipping and aviation. The TNT Group now employs over 50,000 worldwide and turns over excess of \$4,000 million per year.

## CARGOPAK

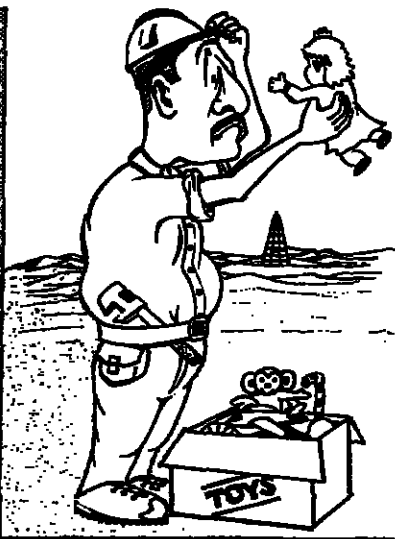
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# Tapping Gulf skills

## UASC: high tasks ahead

The year 1976, represents a historical modification in the Arab Marine Transportation Industry. It was then when UASC was established regaining the Arabian Gulf's reputable marine position which it used to have. It was for the first time, in modern history that an Arab shipping company developed such an industry that provides distinguished shipping services both in quality and quantity. It was made possible with the efforts of the six Gulf countries i.e. Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, UAE, and Qatar. These countries realised the need of such a substantial joint project as an important strategic utility for the Arabian Gulf region, thus the company was founded.

However the role of the company was not limited just to providing trustable shipping services but it includes representation of the region in the International Shipping Union Circles and in defending its interests and in particular, securing shipping services at competitive and reasonable prices. Had it not been for the existence of this company in such unions, the minority monopolist market would have caused harmful effects on the region's trade.

In addition, the company is practicing many strategic tasks like bearing high costs without achieving any concrete revenues. For instance the company is adopting an ambitious training programme to have qualified manpower in different fields of specialities, required by the marine transportation industry.

tion in the industrial countries increased and the commercial exchange average in the world increased thus creating good opportunities for the marine carriers. This led to the development of marine transportation market in the world.

On the Arabian Gulf region basis, the ending of Iraqi-Iranian war led to optimistic anticipations that the two countries (Iraq-Iran) shall concentrate on rebuilding what the war had destroyed and entering the comprehensive development stage. Such issue also encouraged the high demand for marine transporta-



Saud Abdul Aziz ... chief executive

tion in the region. Thus, the external factor in connection with the local factor lead to the flourishing of the shipping world during the period after the war.

UASC possesses a fleet of vessels (48), consisting of containers vessels and general cargo vessels.

UASC services are not limited only to marine transportation, but also provide various services including door-to-door cargo transportation for clients.



Abdulaziz Hussain Salatt ... chairman

and thereafter qualifying them to hold the leading positions in the future. The company in this respect, is contributing effectively in passing on technology and developing the human skills of the Gulf citizens.

On the success of the marine world after the war, the UASC director said: "The present shipping market is recently witnessing a remarkable boost. Such

The company, in this respect, is contributing effectively in the transfer of technology and development of the human skills of Gulf citizens.

boost covers the various marine transportation sectors, where the freight charges and chartering vessels prices increased while the average surplus loads declined as well as the averages of the carried scrap vessels. Such a boost is due to two main factors:

The first factor is external and the second factor within the Arabian Gulf region.

On the external basis, it has been observed that there is a high demand for marine transportation due to the relative boost in the international "foreign trade" because of the decrease in oil prices. The industrial produc-

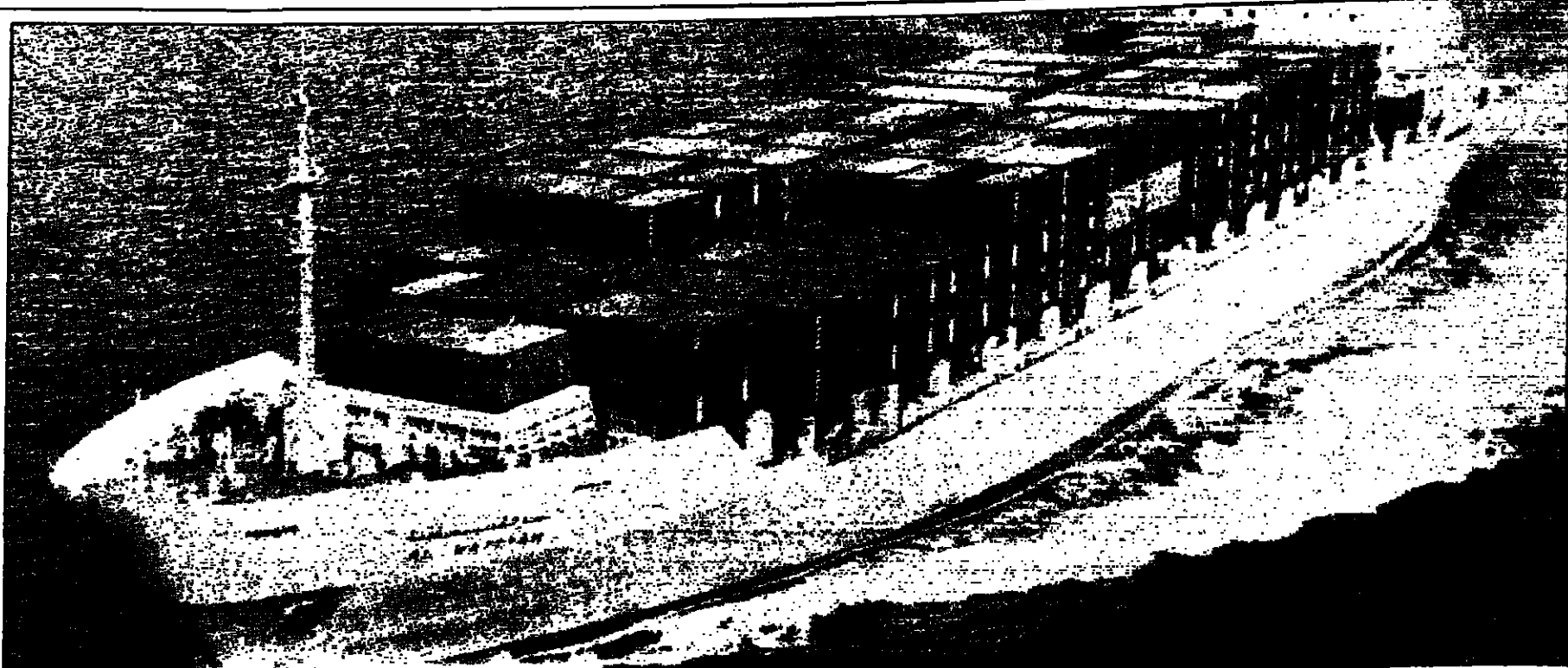
Hamid Thulthikhar Abdul Rahman, deputy chief executive

the Red Sea, in addition to the general cargo services provided by the 33 (K class) vessels.

The two subsidiary companies, which are fully owned by the UASC, provide a wide chain of distinguished services related with freight on behalf of importers and exporters interest. These companies are Kuwait Shipping Agencies Company and Arab Transport Company.

"Aratrans" therefore the UASC services are not only limited to marine transportation, but also provides various services includ-

The ending of the Iraq-Iran war led to optimistic anticipations that the two countries (Iran and Iraq) would concentrate on rebuilding what the war had destroyed and entering into the comprehensive development stage.



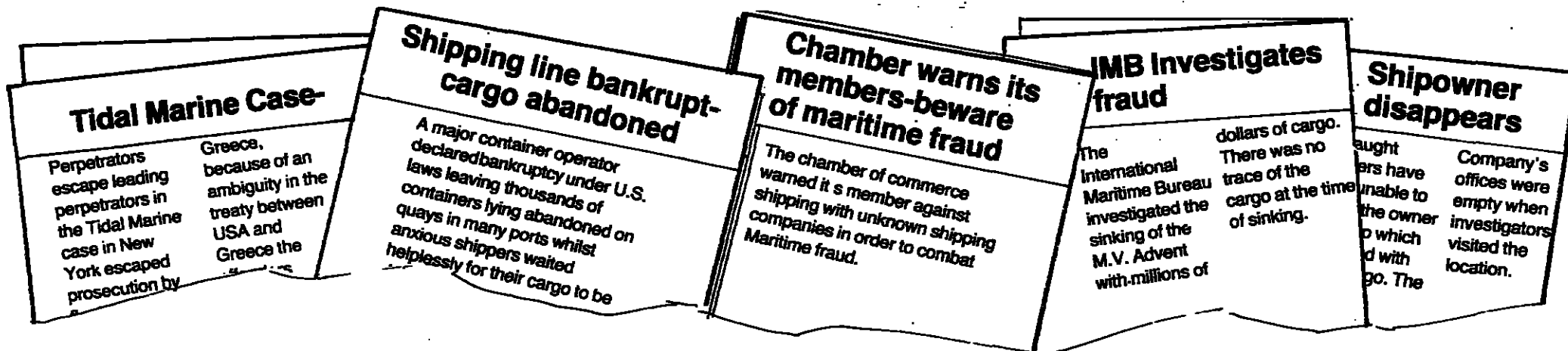
Ship carrying overseas containers.

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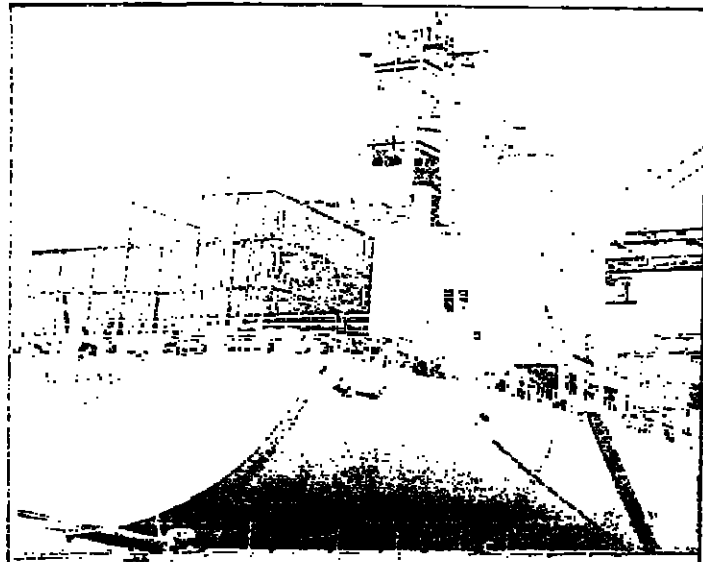
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Fears have been expressed in several quarters of a looming shortage of trained seafarers

# Is there or isn't there a shortage?

By David Moreby

IN terms of the number of people on this earth who wish to work in ships and who possess bits of paper — obtained by proper examinations or by appropriate payments — there is absolutely no shortage of seafarers to man the merchant fleets of the world now, nor in the future. The real question is whether there will be sufficient competent and qualified people to man the world's merchant ships safely and efficiently.

In other words, the issue of a potential shortage of seafarers is not related to numbers but to quality and cost.

At a simplistic level, the question of whether there already is — or might be in the future — a shortage of seafarers is answered by determining the numbers of ships in the world's merchant fleets and the number of berths to be filled, plus a backup reserve for vacations, wastage, etc. This is the 'demand' side of the equation while the 'supply' side is produced by simply counting the number of seafarers available globally, differentiated of course by rank and departmental specialisations.

Such a simplistic approach will not give the correct answer to the question of whether a shortage of seafarers does or may exist for there are many complex and subtle involved in both the demand and supply sides of the equation.

**'Employers must turn to countries where there is an established high-quality training and examination system'**

In addition to determining in terms of the numbers of berths to be filled by rank, departmental specialisations and the certificates required for different types of ships, employers have to take into account many other factors which are economic, national, legal and individual in nature.

During the past 15 years of low freight rates, the dominant demand factor has been the one

of total manning costs to the employer. Short-term thinking owners, managers and employers have simply considered the 'here-and-now' cost of employing a crew from one country or another. Those employers of seafarers who have longer-term planning horizons consider potential increases in crew costs resulting from rising standards of living and, hence, wages in the countries from which they are recruiting.

Another important economic factor affecting demand is the extent to which a shipowner or shipmanager can select the seafarers he wants. Total reliance on government — union — or agent-controlled providers of seafarers may result in the employer getting seafarers supplied to his ships who do not meet the standards he requires. Such undesirable seafarers may cause excessive off-hire time, excessive dry-dock repairs or excessive cargo-damage claims which will affect the shipowner adversely.

The third economic factor affecting demand is the political and pseudo-political acceptability of the crews employed. Ships crewed by people from one country may not be accepted in the ports of another country or may be blacked by the ITF: such unacceptability forcing the rejection of certain charter opportunities or resulting in costly port delays.

At the national level of factors affecting demand, employers must turn to countries where there is an established, high-quality training and examination system where certificates of competency are obtained by real examination and not by money changing hands.

Finally and, probably, as important as costs, employers will engage (ie demand) seafarers based on their skills and competence in a number of areas:

- their technical competence to operate old or new ships
- their ability to communicate and negotiate in the English language, especially Masters, Chief Engineers, Chief Mates and Chief Stewards.
- their commercial astuteness for the good of the shipowner in

the area of charter-party clauses, supervision of stevedores and repair workers, supply of bunkers, stores, etc.

■ their positive attitudes towards hard work, discipline and their acceptance of (affordable) conditions of service related to the frequency and length of vacations, shipboard living facilities, etc.

The factors affecting demand are well understood and used by the shipowners and ship-management companies of one country who need to employ crews from other countries. Unfortunately, for their own well-being and for the well-being of the seafarers they engage, they sometimes ignore the factors affecting supply.

The factors affecting supply can be clustered into the areas of national policies, social and cultural attitudes, and the individual.

At national level, the supply of seafarers to foreign employers is a governmental decision. Governments of countries operating their own national fleets are placed in difficult demands when the foreign employers of national seafarers offer higher wages than the national shipowners can afford.

**'The best seafarers will be attracted by ensuring they take home the full amount they earned'**

When the government of one country allows its citizens to serve in foreign ships, it knows that the country's balance of payments will benefit from the hard-currency remittances sent in by its seafarers provided, of course, that they go through proper channels and not through the black market. A government in this position has to decide whether losses suffered by its national shipowners through losing good quality seafarers, or by having to pay unaffordably high wages, are positively off-set by hard-currency remittances coming into the country from its seafarers employed on foreign ships.

Another important economic factor affecting demand is the extent to which a shipowner or shipmanager can select the seafarers he wants. Total citizens to serve in foreign ships, it knows that the country's balance of payments will benefit from the hard-currency remittances sent in by its seafarers provided, of course, that they go through proper channels and not through the black market. A government in this position has to decide whether losses suffered by its national shipowners through losing good quality seafarers, or by having to pay unaffordably high wages, are positively off-set by hard-currency remittances coming into the country from its seafarers employed on foreign ships.

Another important factor affecting supply is the political stability of the country and the long-term commitment of the government towards maritime training and an internationally acceptable examination system. It is easy to point to the Philippines and say that political stability does not affect the supply of seafarers to foreign owners, but political upheaval in another seafarer-supplying country may result in the withdrawal of seafarers from that country, and may alter that country's commitment to training.

The level of general education in a country is another factor affecting supply.

A country which provides its young people with a good general education will be more attractive, as a source of supply of seafarers, than one that does not. The reason is simple: if the young people entering the maritime colleges are already well educated, the resources and time available for maritime training can be put to good use by concentrating on giving the students the specific skills and knowledge they need to work

effectively aboard ship. If, on the other hand, the general educational standards of the entrants are low, a proportion of the maritime training resources and time will have to be developed to remedial teaching in English speech, reading and writing and to simple arithmetic. The amount of time available for teaching specific maritime skills is thus reduced and the 'graduate' is far from being effective seafarer.

A low standard of living in a country, coupled with a high level of unemployment, simply results in the average income per worker or family being low by world standards. In such a country, seafaring employment — especially in foreign ships with wages paid in US dollars — will be seen as a very attractive career and families and school teachers will push their young men in this direction.

**'Moral and religious older people forbade their children going to sea for fear they would become drunken revellers'**

Once aboard ship, the seafarer from such a country may appear to receive a pittance in wages when compared with seafarers from the OECD countries but, when he returns home, he can live like a king provided that not too much of his take-home pay is syphoned off by unscrupulous manning agents and corrupt clerks in the manning agencies who may require private payments to keep an individual on the roster and find him a berth at the end of his leave.

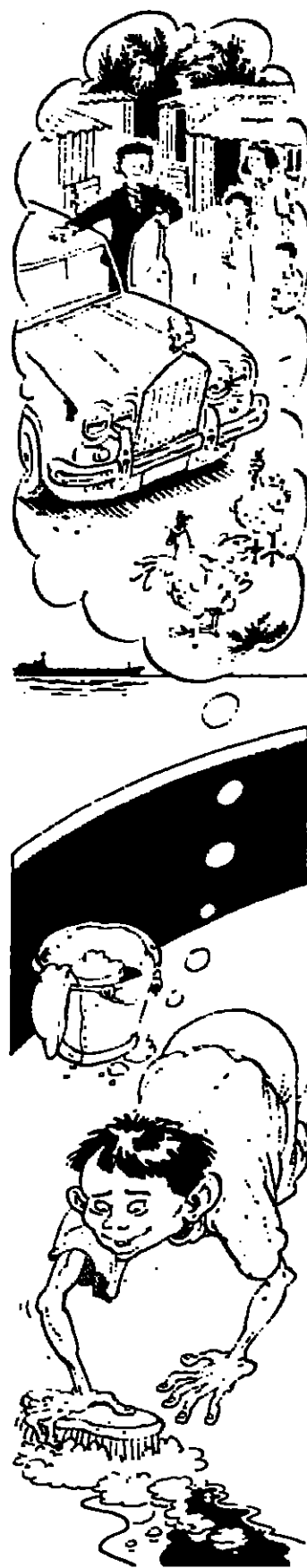
Following the work of CVD Smith on Human Rights Violations at Sea (Plymouth Polytechnic 1983), it is patently clear that any major, foreign employer who wishes to recruit and retain seafarers from a

country where corruption is rife, will be able to attract and retain the best seafarers not by offering higher wages than other employers but by ensuring that the money they take or send home is the full amount for which they have worked and to which they are fully entitled. Such far-sighted employers should also ensure that the retention of his full wages by a seafarer should not jeopardise his appointment to another ship at the end of his leave. Foreign shipowners and ship-management companies who address this issue (even if they, themselves, have to make private payments to the official whose authority to use a particular rubber stamp is that person's major source of income and basis for his pension in old age) will not only get and retain the best seafarers from that country but they will create a degree of loyalty beyond their wildest dreams.

But, enough about private payments. Corruption exists in every country: the only difference is that it is more widespread and more penal on the individual in some countries than it is in others.

Even in countries with low standards of living, low wages and high unemployment, seafaring may not be seen as an attractive career because it carries a social stigma.

The highly moral and religious older people living near the ports along the Western, Northern and Eastern coasts of Africa and around ports in the Middle East, Indian sub-continent, Malaysia, Indonesia and the Far East have witnessed in generations past, the drunken debauchery of European seafarers manning the ships that used to serve their ports. The understandable reaction of these older people was to forbid their children to go to sea for fear that they would become drunken revellers.



## Aramex carries documents to every destination

ARAMEX International Courier operates an international transportation and delivery network for urgent documents and parcels.

Aramex was launched in 1982 as a joint Arab-American company based in the Arab world. The original intention of the Aramex founders was to fashion a company uniquely equipped to serve as a strong link between the Middle East

and the rest of the world. Today, Aramex boasts a service that reaches every destination worldwide, and an ever expanding client list.

Aramex's extensive network of On-Board Carriers and efficient personnel will ensure that shipments reach destinations on time. But the job doesn't stop there, an emphasis on professional and complete customer service

means that an update on all developments is available, and a proof of delivery is obtained. Aramex began operating in Kuwait in 1983, in association with Al-Sawan company.

Aramex Kuwait currently has three outlets located in various parts of Kuwait (Kuwait City, Fahaheel, Shuwaikh), established to enhance the delivery and pick-up service. Locally they cater to

such reputable companies and organisations as Kuwait Oil Company, United Nations, and Opec.

Aramex can provide an overnight service to the Gulf, Middle East and London, and deliver to all other destinations in 48 to 72 hours.

Aramex Kuwait is very ambitious and eager to extend the best possible customer support to the local market.

## You name it, Alghanim ships it

By Fathima Ahmed  
Arab Times staff

"OUR job is to make life easier for you, particularly when it comes to shipping anything — from animals to heavy equipment," says A.S. Abdel Hak, the energetic general manager of the Alghanim Transport Services Group.

Alghanim Sea Freight, Sahara Trans and Alghanim Freight are the specialised arms of the Alghanim Industries group, providing a wide range of services to ferry inbound and outbound cargo, by air, sea or land.

The pioneers of the business in Kuwait, the management claims to have over 200 years of "collective experience", with between 10 and 20 years individually.

Their pass words are "service, dependability and reliability", coupled with efficiency and competitive rates, the company hard sell their services to a clientele that wants to take it easy when it comes to service.

Some of their services are: ocean freight, worldwide import and export; home delivery of household goods; transit cargo to Iraq; sea and road transport to Egypt; worldwide freight forwarding through their network with 300 offices around the world; marine insurance brokers; chartering brokers, clearance and transport services from Iraqi ports; container groupage services; road groupage

services and LCL and NVOCC services for in-transit cargo to Iraq via Kuwait.

They pride themselves for offering door-to-door delivery services to ship household effects and other goods from Kuwait to any destination in the world; most of the cargo is air-freighted and packed by the Alghanim staff.

"We provide A to Z services when it comes to shipping anything from Kuwait to anywhere in the world," says Mahmoud Jalal, manager air freight division.

The average airfreight turnover is over 120 tonnes per month, with export cargo turnover amounting to over a million dinars.

As the IATA airfreight agents for inbound and outbound cargo, we outclass our competitors by offering high class service and lower costs, said Abdel Hak.

More than \$7 million worth of sea freight cargo is handled per year, with the turnover rising sharply each year. Both containerised and general freight is carried by the company. "We can tailor shipping arrangements to suit needs; we also offer warehousing and trucking facilities, both inside and outside Kuwait," Hak added.

With the assistance of an aggressive sales team, the company seems to have weathered most difficulties, as it strides forward to take a big share of the transport market.

With a fleet of 55 trucks and 100 trailers, the road transport

division dovetails with both the airfreight and seafreight divisions to give a co-ordinated service and a minimum delivery time.

With the in-transit trade to Iraq on the rise, the company has managed to get a chunk of the business. "We carry an average of 2,000 of bulk cargo to Iraq every day," said Tariq Makki, overland transport manager. They also provide trucking services to Saudi Arabia, Syria, Lebanon and Jordan.

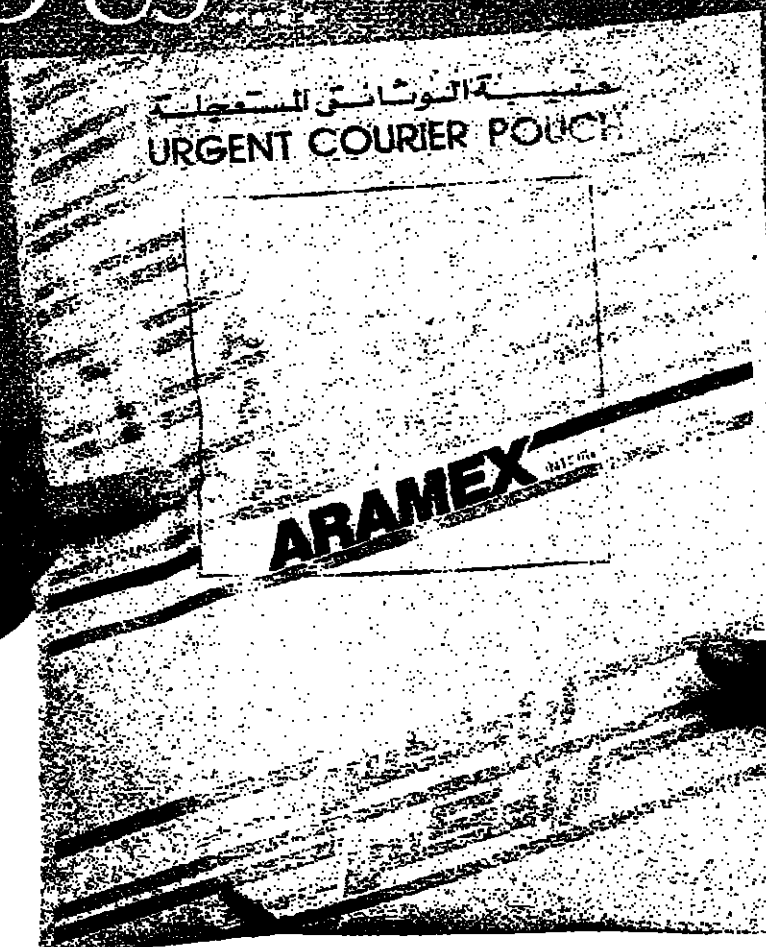
The fleet also includes smaller trucks and vans as well as car transporters to move goods inside Kuwait or via Kuwait to neighbouring countries.

Sahara Trans, one of the largest companies in Kuwait, it has been engaged in most major areas of commerce in Kuwait and the Middle East for more than 35 years. They are one of the foremost freight handlers for imports, goods in-transit and re-exports. With a network of over 145 agents around the world, they are able to cope with increased trade.

"Give us your inquiry, no matter how complex, and we'll prove we outclass everybody else especially," said Abdel Hak confidently.

Hak said the key to their development into the most professional freight handlers has been their ability to adapt to the changing needs of the customers. "We believe that customers should not have to look further than us for their transport needs," added Hak.

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## Business group sees need for lower rates

HOT SPRINGS, Va., Oct. 13. (Reuters) The United States economy will continue to grow through 1991 if the Federal Reserve, America's central bank, gradually eases its grip on credit and lets interest rates decline, a group of the nation's top business leaders said.

The Business Council, presenting a two-year forecast for the US economy, said a number of weak spots were evident in the economy that could carry a slight risk of recession.

But the group remains confident that the Fed will ease monetary policy to prevent the potential weakness from spreading throughout the economy and extend the current economic expansion to a record nine years.

The council's economists project US growth will remain near two per cent until the end of 1990 and then accelerate to 2.5 per cent in 1991.

"If our consultants were any less confident of a supportive role by the Fed, their numbers would look very different," said Lewis Preston, chairman of J.P. Morgan and Company.

In line with a "soft landing" scenario for the economy, the group also expects consumer inflation to remain at or below 4.5 per cent through 1991, compared with its third quarter 1989 rate of about 3.6 per cent.

The Fed has come under increasing pressure in the past few months to relax its anti-inflationary stance and lower interest rates to spur growth.

Economists also argue that lower interest rates would lower the dollar and make US produced goods more competitive overseas.

Some corporate leaders said they were concerned that high interest rates and the recently rising dollar could threaten the life of the economic expansion.

"Interest rates are too high and we continue to be at a substantial competitive disadvantage to Japan in terms of the cost of capital," said James Robinson, chairman of American Express.

"With the lightness in the economy that we've been seeing, I hope the Fed soon realises that they can take those rates down," he added.

"If I were the Fed I'd be inclined to lean in the direction of an easier policy," Preston added. "My sense is we will need a fair amount of insurance against trouble."

The council expects overseas economic growth to offset the effect of the strong dollar and lift net exports modestly in the next two years.

But some business executives said the rising dollar was inhibiting further progress in cutting the trade deficit.

"As far as I'm concerned, the dollar is too high," said Edmund Pratt, chairman of the Pfizer pharmaceutical company.

"The council's economists were more optimistic than they were at their last meeting in May."

"That news presumably would make them more inclined to count on the Fed for timely support to the economy," the council said.

## Jobless women to get credits

ANKARA, Oct. 13. (Reuters) Turkey plans to extend cheap loans to jobless women to encourage home industries, beginning from November, State Minister Cemil Cicek told reporters.

But a survey carried out by the State Planning Organisation showed 56 per cent of men and 42 per cent of women in Turkey thought women should stick to housework.

Cheap loans of up to two million lira will be extended to women to buy sewing and knitting machines and similar implements to contribute to family income by marketing lacework, embroidery, linens or other handicrafts.

Half of Turkey's 55-million population are women. The survey showed only 16.5 per cent of them were working.

## Trade unions protest against soaring inflation

WARSAW, Oct. 13. (Reuters) Poland's communist-led Opozycja trade union staged its first street protest today against the Solidarity-led government and soaring inflation.

Union leader Alfred Miodowicz and about 150 supporters demonstrated in drizzling rain outside parliament to protest against an "avalanche of price rises" under the month-old government of Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki.

Miodowicz, whose unions claim 50 million members, said supporters were tired of "paper protest" and wanted action. "This demonstration in the rain is one of the signs that we are starting protests of a new type," he said.

He said the economic crisis had turned Poland into a powder keg and

## Global approach needed Call to solve Third World debt woes

MANILA, Oct. 13. (Reuters) The Philippines and Bangladesh called yesterday for a global approach to solving Third World problems of mounting debt, depressed commodity prices and widespread protectionism.

In a statement at the end of a four-day visit to Manila by Bangladesh President Hossein Mohammad Ershad, the two Asian states urged closer co-operation between developing countries to expand their economies.

The joint statement said Ershad and President Corason Aquino agreed that an

integrated global approach was needed in finding solutions to problems confronting developing countries.

It cited mounting debt burdens, depressed commodity prices, widespread protectionism and restrictive trade practices, among others.

They hoped that a Philippine proposal for the creation of an international debt and development commission to help tackle the problem of Third World debt would get the backing of most United Nations members.

A special plane was flown in for Ershad

from Dhaka to take him back home after his Bangladesh Airlines DC-10 was hit by the wind of an Omani government jet at Manila airport during a typhoon on Wednesday.

During his visit to Manila, Ershad held talks with Aquino and the two countries signed a trade protocol, a merchant shipping agreement, an accord on economic and technical co-operation and a cultural exchange programme.

The two presidents said in their statement that Bangladesh could act as a bridge between the regional groupings of

South Asia and South East Asia, and stressed that greater regional co-operation would accelerate development for all.

They called for greater flexibility by the warring factions in Cambodia to reach a comprehensive political settlement, urged the creation of a non-aligned and "Islamic" Afghanistan, and welcomed the improving trend in East-West relations.

On Tuesday, Aquino and Ershad signed economic, trade, shipping and cultural agreements.

Aquino agreed to visit Bangladesh but no date was set, a joint statement said.

## Debt reduction plans chaotic, says UN chief

Creditors urged to set up world framework

UNITED NATIONS, Oct. 13. (Agencies) Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar said today various plans for reducing the world's trillion dollar debt were underfunded, moved too slowly and were much too cumbersome to solve financial crises in developing countries.

He called on governments of creditor nations to set up an overall framework to resolve the "debt problem for once and for all" rather than merely manging it through recurring negotiations.

"It is disheartening to contemplate that eight months or more to be negotiated and implemented," Perez de Cuellar said in a report on the world debt crisis.

As an example of the confusion, the United Nations

report said burden sharing among different types of creditors or debtors is distributed without any clear principle.

"Indeed the Paris Club accords its most favourable terms to low-income countries while commercial bank rescheduling committees accord their best terms to middle-income creditors," he said.

In Africa, the report said government and international financial institutions play a large role whereas elsewhere, such as Latin America, private banks account for most of the claims.

But experience had shown that if burden sharing in cancelling debts was not orderly, no creditor would help to pay off another creditor.

Therefore, an internationally

trusted agency was needed to "establish equitable rules and norms for the treatment of all debtors and creditors," the report said.

Enrique Terhorst, assistant secretary-general for development, told reporters that creditor governments should introduce tax and regulatory changes so banks would have an incentive to reduce debt.

He also chastised developing countries for continually raising their interest rates.

"Whatever may be the underlying justification for this, the cost to developing countries will be several billion dollars a year in interest charges on debt," he said.

He also said increasing loan-loss reserves did not mean banks were willing to support debt

## Abu Dhabi upgrades refineries

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates, Oct. 13. (AP) Abu Dhabi has been quietly moving to upgrade the capacity of its two oil refineries by more than 30 per cent and a deadline for tenders will end this month, oil industry sources disclosed today.

The Abu Dhabi National Oil Co. has received bids from several international companies and winners will be announced in November, when the unpublicized project will be immediately implemented, the sources said.

The sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, gave no reason for the secrecy.

Abu Dhabi is the largest oil-producing emirate of the seven in the United Arab Emirates, which is a member state of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

Abu Dhabi's refineries, with a current capacity of 180,000 barrels a day, will be boosted by 70,000 barrels a day, the sources reported.

The Umm Al-Nar refinery, the oldest in Abu Dhabi, was established in 1976 with a capacity of 150,000 barrels a day. That was upgraded to 60,000 barrels in 1984.

The Al Rawas refinery was a production capacity of 120,000 barrels a day.

A hydrocracker plant was added to the complex in 1985 with a capacity of converting 27,000 barrels of low value products a day from the two refineries into light and medium distillates.

## Press calls for peace in gas industry

LAGOS, Oct. 13. (Reuters) Nigerian newspapers urged the government today to restore peace to the country's troubled gas industry to ensure the survival of its multi-billion dollar liquefied natural gas (LNG) project.

They said the suspension of Aret Adams and Eliko Onyia, managing directors of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) and the Nigeria LNG Company res-

pectively, over a disagreement with Oil Minister Rilwanu Lukman could harm the infant project.

"Recall these officials in the interest of peace in the organisation and the overall national interest," the state-owned Daily Times urged President Ibrahim Babangida in an editorial.

Duro Onabula, the president's

spokesman, said the two men were suspended last month because they disobeyed orders. He did not give further details. NNPC officials have been reluctant to speak on the issue, telling journalists to give them time.

It has, however, been widely reported that Adams and Onyia were suspended after refusing to accept a list of appointments to the Nigeria LNG

Company submitted by Lukman and apparently approved by Babangida. Nigeria LNG company was set up in May to produce and market liquefied natural gas, one of the country's biggest projects.

It brings together the state-owned NNPC with 60 per cent of the shares, Royal Dutch/Shell group 20 per cent, and Agip of Italy and Elf of France 10 per cent each.

## Big credit package for Poland

## Bonn to back reforms

BONN, Oct. 13. (Reuters) West Germany said yesterday it aimed to back economic reform in Poland with a major credit package which could total at least \$1 billion.

A senior government official said Bonn would support the Solidarity-led government in Warsaw by guaranteeing bank loans to help finance specific foreign exchange earning projects.

Although Bonn's assistance to Poland will far surpass that of other Western countries the official said West Germany was loath to yield to Polish demands to state an overall figure for the credit package.

"This is not popular in West Germany," the official said. "Most Germans see credit for Poland as money going down a bottomless pit."

The government was not interested in doling out large, untied sums because the West German public saw this as throwing good money after bad, he said.

"The Poles have given us a list of projects which total more than three billion marks (\$1.5 billion)," the official, who did not want to be named, told Reuters.

"We feel the list has a lot of sensible and positive projects on it," he said. "Credits for Polish projects could end up as at more than three billion marks."

But other government officials were sceptical that Bonn and Warsaw would be able to agree on anything amounting to a significant number of projects.

"But there'll certainly be more than now," one official said. "The Polish government, the first in the East bloc to be headed by a non-communist prime minister, unveiled plans on Thursday to close loss-making state-owned fac-

ilities and switch to a free market economy by 1991. It has asked for \$1 billion from Western governments to stabilise its economy but so far the West has been cautious on offering fresh credit."

On Wednesday, the US House of Representatives passed a plan offering \$840 million to Hungary and Poland. This needs approval from the Senate and President George Bush who originally proposed an aid package half that size.

Polish Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki, currently in Italy on his first foreign trip since taking office in September, said in an interview published on Thursday that the West's offers of aid had so far fallen short of the country's needs.

"What we have are offers which are qualitatively serious and innovative, but unfortunately they are insufficient," he told the Turin newspaper La Stampa.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl wants to unveil West Germany's credit package when he visits Warsaw next month. The last time Bonn gave its backing to loans for Poland was in 1986, but the credit line soon had to be closed after Poland failed to keep up with payments on its \$39 billion of foreign debt.

Poland owes about \$26 billion to Western governments, with Bonn looking for around \$4 billion.

Kohl's centre-right coalition government is also under pressure from the far-right Republican Party which is keen to exploit any handouts to Poland for electoral gain.

To counter the opposition the government would back projects in Poland involving West German companies, officials said.

## \$38.8b high-tech plan

Tax incentives planned

SEOUL, South Korea, Oct. 13. (AP) The Trade and Industry Ministry announced today a five-year, \$38.8 billion plan to develop South Korea's high-technology industries.

Officials said the plan for 1990-1994 is designed to put South Korea among the world's top 10 high-technology industry countries by the year 2000. Korea's present world ranking was not given.

Under the plan \$16.4 billion will go for research and development on high technology in microelectronics, biotechnology, new materials, fine chemicals, electronics, optics and aerospace.

They said another \$22.6 billion will have to be invested in manufacturing plant facilities and that the government will make available an additional \$3.74 billion in loans at low interest rates and

repayable over 10 years, to help local companies install manufacturing facilities.

They said the plan also calls for building high-tech industrial complexes in seven provincial cities, including Taegu, Kwangju and Taejeon.

If the plan is carried out effectively, the officials said, South Korea's share in the world high-tech industry market is expected to rise from 1.4 per cent in 1987 to 2.3 per cent in 1994 and 3.2 per cent in the year 2000.

They said high-tech industries are expected to account for 24.4 per cent of South Korea's overall manufacturing exports in 1994, up from 11.1 per cent in 1987.

They said high-tech industries also will be given tax incentives or deductions.

hot times were ahead that could eventually bring the end of Mazowiecki's government.

Food prices in Poland rose 187 per cent in August and 51 per cent in September after the former communist government lifted price controls. Officials in the present government fear inflation may reach 900-1,000 per cent by the end of the year.

Miodowicz and his mainly elderly supporters staged the Opozycja protest as parliament debated a bill to index wages by pegging them to cost-of-living rises.

A delegation handed a petition calling the bill ill-prepared and inadequate to speaker Mikolaj Kozakiewicz. Most working families were having to reduce consumption and many were reaching the brink of

poverty, the petition said.

Miodowicz said workers should receive full compensation for price rises, not just the 80 per cent proposed in the bill.

Miodowicz, a few months ago one of Poland's rulers on the Communist Party Politburo, said he did not agree with recent warnings of civil war by Solidarity leader Lech Walesa.

But he said Poland was like a time bomb.

"The present situation is very difficult, we are sitting on a powder keg," Miodowicz said. "Who or what is going to put out the fire? It's like a time bomb."

Marian Orzechowski, a Politburo member and the Communist Party's parliamentary leader who came out to greet Miodowicz, agreed. "Yes, we

are all sitting on a powder keg and we can all be blown up together. Very easily," he said.

Miodowicz said the government would fail to halt hyper-inflation and he expected a crisis when prices reached their peak.

"Inside factories ... the atmosphere will be very hot. It will be a crisis, a turning point. I don't mean civil war but real changes in the economy and industry," he said. "A time will come, an appropriate time, when we will see a change to a new government. Everything in its time."

Another Opozycja leader at the protest disagreed. "I don't agree with what Walesa says about civil war," he said. "The Mazowiecki government is very popular and no one wants a tragedy."

## Elusive theory

## Haavelmo mastered disentanglement

CAMBRIDGE, Massachusetts, Oct. 13. (UPI) A Norwegian professor who won the 1989 Nobel prize in economics mastered the elusive theory of "disentanglement" of supply and demand forces to open new horizons, an economist said yesterday.

Tyge Haavelmo, 78, a professor at Oslo University in Norway, was awarded the prize Wednesday by the Nobel committee for his "fundamental contributions to econometrics."

In layman's terms, Haavelmo was able to solve the stubborn problem of "disentanglement" when more than one economic force is at work, said the Harvard professor Zvi Griliches, who studied under Haavelmo at the University of Chicago in the mid-1950s.

Haavelmo presented his influential study, "The probability approach in econometrics," at Harvard in April 1941. It was published in 1944. "When you look at raw data you don't really know if the quantity changed because consumers responded to lower price or because the weather changed and affected crops or other factors," Griliches said.

"We want to describe how the demanders behave apart from how the suppliers behave," he said.

For example, officials considering a hike in cigarette taxes want to know how consumers will respond to the higher prices, in order to determine how much new revenue will be raised. Using Haavelmo's model, economists can isolate the impact of demand from other factors, such as the year's tobacco yield.

"When you have demand forces and supply forces, and both of them determine price, you have a problem of disentangling these two forces from the same set of data," he said. "Haavelmo showed how you can separate the impact of demand and the impact of supply."

"Before his work, economists had a general idea whether it was closer to one or the other (supply or demand), but was the first one to get a logically coherent and statistically sound solution to the problem and it just took this whole field of econometrics onto a new path."

Real progress was made at the second round of negotiations Monday and Tuesday in Brussels between commission officials and a Soviet delegation led by Prof. Ivan Ivanov, deputy chairman of the Foreign Economic Commission of the Soviet Union, he said.

"There are already texts on the table covering the whole of the envisaged agreement," the spokesman said, adding a number of points still "require further reflection by both sides."

He said the next round of negotiations will probably be held next month. "There is hope it will be possible to initial the agreement before the end of the year," he said.

The agreement would include liberalisation of trade and economic co-operation which could cover such fields as energy, scientific research and technology, nuclear safety, environment and agriculture.


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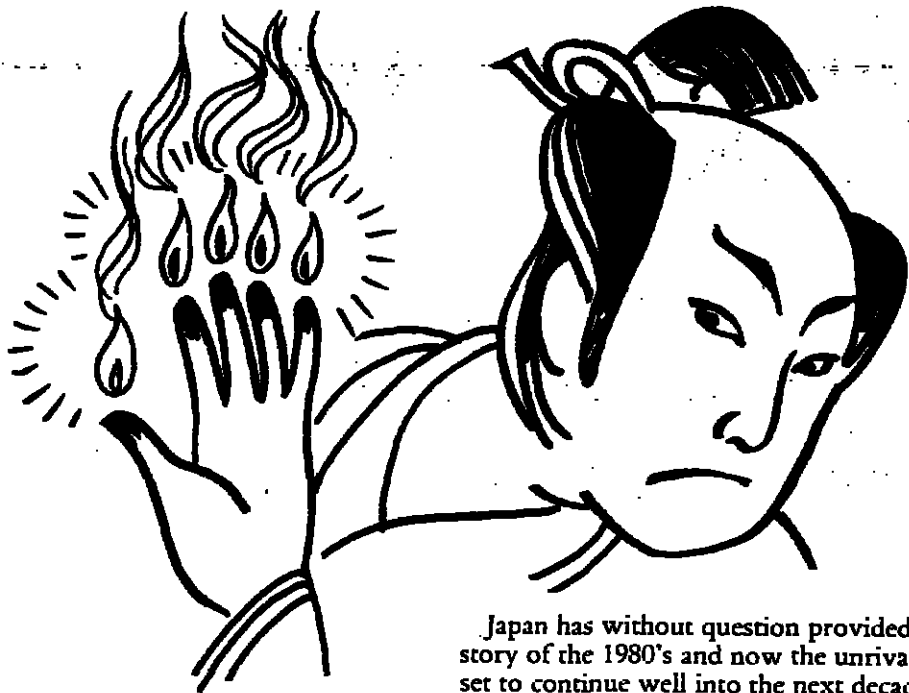
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# Hussein hails US-Canada trade pact

OTTAWA, Oct. 13, (UPI): Warring Middle East nations should learn from the US-Canada free trade pact and the European Economic Community's moves toward dismantling its economic barriers, Jordan's King Hussein told Parliament yesterday.

Hussein, on a six-day visit to Canada that includes briefing Prime Minister Brian Mulroney on the Middle East peace process, made his remarks to a joint session of the House of Commons and the Senate, the two chambers of Canada's Parliament.

Hussein noted the world's nations have

become so interdependent that no country has the resources to face the challenges of this century alone.

"Without organised and comprehensive regional plans of co-operation, the various countries' attempts at development become random shots in the dark," Hussein said.

The Jordanian leader cited the US-Canada free trade agreement and the European Economic Community's attempts to negotiate an economic and monetary union by 1992 as examples of desirable regional co-operation.

Mussein accused Israel of stalling the

Middle East peace process with endless "debates over modalities and procedures."

He said Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's ten-point plan for elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, which could help advance the peace process, was being derailed by Israel's coalition government.

Hussein said he was encouraged by moves toward peace in Lebanon, including a ceasefire and the recent round of peace talks involving Arab League states and separate talks involving members of

Lebanon's all-but-defunct Parliament. But he warned that these would not be sufficient to stop the bloodshed.

Hussein said the ceasefire between Iran and Iraq in the Gulf should not become "a lull in which the two sides catch their breath in preparation for the next round."

Noting Israel's acquisition of a nuclear arsenal and other weapons of mass destruction, Hussein said it was imperative for the international community to help bring peace to the Middle East.

Hussein, who is on his fourth trip to Canada, will visit Toronto and Calgary later this week.

Oil prices could reach \$30-40 by the year 2000

## Gulf countries could enjoy economic boom in 1990s

VIENNA, Oct. 13, (Opecna): Gulf countries could experience "boom conditions" reminiscent of the 1970s by the middle of the next century as the world once again becomes heavily dependent on the region's oil supplies.

According to Prof. Robert E. Looney of the Naval Post-Graduate School in Monterey, California, increased revenue from crude oil and sale of petrochemicals, fertilizers and refined products will finance high growth prospects in the region.

Writing in the autumn issue of the "Opec Review" quarterly, published by the Opec secretariat, he points out that nearly all excess capacity to produce oil rests with Opec.

He predicts that the organisation should come close to full capacity in 1993, if oil prices stay at or below \$25 a barrel. With projected world economic growth rates of two to three per cent, crude prices could reach \$30-40 by the year 2000.

Given low prices in the late 1980s, he says, the growth rate in oil consumption should begin to increase from around two per cent annually this year to 2.5 per cent per annum by the end of the century.

Looney's paper is focused on the six member states of the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) — Opec

member countries Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates, together with Oman and Bahrain.

Both Iran and Iraq are excluded from the report, as the author feels that because of their relative size, they do not share many of the region's problems related to economic growth in general and industrial diversification in particular.

He warns that until oil revenues pick up again in the early 1990s, governments in the Gulf region will have to continue coping with their revenue shortfalls as in the recent past, by altering the composition of their budgets.

"It appears that if they can survive the next few years, they should be in an excellent position to begin a long and sustained expansion of their economies," he asserts.

Looney says that since the mid-1970s, the Gulf region has achieved a relatively high rate of growth in industrial production, but this has depended on external rather than internal factors.

However, he explains that the dependence of the Gulf economies as a whole on a single commodity — 90 per cent of the region's exports are made up of oil — "is an indicator of the extent of their vulnerability."

Any change in the international oil market "has a direct impact on all economic activity and development programmes in the region."

He notes that since 1982, government revenues have undergone a "profound transformation," with oil earnings needing to be augmented by local taxes, utilisation of financial reserves and domestic and overseas borrowing.

"Perhaps the key factors that will determine the course and nature of the industrialisation process over the next decade or so will, as in the past, revolve around developments in oil markets and their resultant budgetary impact," he says.

The recent turnaround in the world oil market and Opec's revenue prospects, he says, have "produced a challenge for Gulf industrialisation." For many of the region's countries, industrial development "is the key to successful economic diversification and the main assurance of continued, self-sustaining growth."

In the main, Gulf industrial development plans have been directed towards oil and gas-based industries such as refining, chemical fertilizers and petrochemicals, in addition to energy-intensive industries such as aluminium smelters and steel

plants, which are primarily aimed at export markets, he says.

Looney stipulates that apart from oil or energy-related industries, most industrial development in the past two decades has been in the field of import substitution, such as construction materials, and processed foods.

With the exception of petrochemicals, fertilizers, steel and aluminium, most of the finished products manufactured in the Gulf states are consumer goods.

But, observes Looney, the Gulf states are all moving from public sector-led growth and over-dependence on oil to private sector initiatives and a diversified production base.

Future development strategies will continue to include diversification of the region's economic structure so that exposure to external factors is minimized and the industrial sector continues to develop, meeting not only local demand but increasing exports by making use of the region's in-built and natural advantages.

Efforts will also be stepped up to create an industrial and technological base that is "self-sustaining and reasonably independent of the oil sector," together with geographically balanced development which will enhance co-operation.

## American producer prices up

WASHINGTON, Oct. 13, (Reuters): US prices rose a steep 0.9 per cent at the wholesale level in September, boosted by resurgence in the cost of petrol and cars, the Labour Department reported yesterday.

The sizeable climb indicated a return of inflationary pressures to the American economy after a three-month string of declines in the producer price index, which fell 0.4 per cent in July and August and 0.1 per cent in June.

Wall Street economists were expecting a 0.7 per cent increase in the producer price index, which measures average price producers paid for goods at all stages of processing before the products reach the customer. Excluding food and energy, economists had predicted a 0.5 per cent rise.

Retail sales rose a healthy 0.5 per cent in September for the third consecutive monthly gain, the Commerce Department said in a separate report. Excluding cars, which can fluctuate widely, retail sales rose 0.4 per cent in September after gaining 0.2 per cent in August.



Problems of sterling

French Finance Minister Pierre Bérégovoy said at a business meeting in Paris last week that current problems of sterling weakness should make the British government consider bringing the pound fully into the European Monetary System (EMS) earlier than it had anticipated. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Lawson stands firm on economic policy

BLACKPOOL, England, Oct. 13, (Reuters): Beleaguered Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson has passed a political test, but financial markets reserved judgement on his determined commitment to high interest rates as the cure for Britain's economic ills.

In the most keenly-awaited speech of the week yesterday at the ruling Conservative Party's annual conference, Lawson bluntly said there was no alternative to his unpopular strategy.

Higher base lending rates, raised last week to 15 per cent, have hurt home-buyers by forcing up mortgages.

But Lawson said they were essential and would stay high as long as necessary to beat inflation and defend the pound.

"People ask whether there is an alternative to high interest rates at the present time. And whether they can be sure the policy will work. Bluntly, the answer is that there is no alternative and the policy will work," he said.

"I will continue to take whatever action is needed, however unpopular it may be, to keep our economy sound and strong."

Lawson won a standing ovation, led by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, from the 4,500 largely-uncritical delegates in the northern seaside resort of Blackpool.

While this removed some recent doubts about his standing in the party, money markets were unimpressed.

The Bank of England intervened after his address to stop the pound sliding. The

## Inflation rises

LONDON, Oct. 13, (Reuters): Retail prices in Britain rose by their highest amount for five months in September, taking the annual inflation rate to 7.6 per cent and interrupting a previous slowdown in price rises.

The government said the 0.7 per cent rise in the retail price index for September was the highest monthly increase since April's 1.8 per cent. Forecasters had expected a 0.4 per cent rise to keep inflation level at its August rate of 7.3 per cent.

The figures sent sterling down half a cent and half a pence and the Financial Times/Stock Exchange index of leading shares slid 10 points.

But the falls were limited as markets awaited a speech by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to her Conservative Party's annual conference later today.

Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson, who has raised interest rates to 15 per cent in an effort to squeeze the economy and bolster sterling, warned the conference on Thursday that inflation would "not come down in a straight line."

The rise was unwelcome political news for the government following the cool reception given to Lawson's defence of his economic strategy by the markets on Thursday.

It did nothing to calm market jitters and sterling was expected to remain vulnerable to speculative pressure until the September trade figures are announced on October 24.

The August deficit of £2 billion (£3.1 billion) set the stage for the current crisis of confidence in sterling and higher interest rates.

In a radio interview on Friday, Lawson warned that interest rates might have to rise even further if inflation persisted.

pound ended the day slightly lower against the West German mark and slightly higher against the dollar.

Speaking on television later, Lawson said flatly there was no sterling crisis and welcomed the reception he had won for what he called a speech "with no frills and no flannel."

Some financial analysts and opposition critics attacked Lawson as complacent and said his

20-minute speech contained nothing new and did not answer a number of questions.

Lawson had pointedly not mentioned Britain's record trade deficit nor had he said when the government would allow the isolated pound to join all the other major European currencies in the exchange rate mechanism of the European Monetary System.

## Largest private phone system launched

WASHINGTON, Oct. 13, (AP): The government officially launched the world's largest private telecommunications system Wednesday with a three-way, coast-to-coast conference call and electronic mail exchange on the new FTS2000 network.

US Congressman John Conyers, a Democrat, made the first telephone call — a discussion of day care facilities with a department of veterans affairs official in Indianapolis, Indiana, and a Department of Energy official in Spokane, Washington.

The brief, three-day conversation was piped into a loudspeaker in the office of a GSA's acting administrator, Richard G. Austin, where a gaggle of relieved telephone and government representatives applauded the connection.

Austin, with a bit of fumbling with unfamiliar equipment, then transmitted and received electronic messages with the two distant callers that were displayed on a nearby television screen.

Conyers, chairman of the House of Representatives Government Operations Committee, which oversaw development of the new federal telecommunications system, told the gathering the system was a "daring, innovative, massive leap into the next century."

Austin said that when FTS2000 is fully implemented it will provide a host of voice, video and high-speed data services to 1,300 federal sites nationwide in what the government says is the largest network of its kind. The system is expected to be fully in place by mid-1990. FTS2000 is expected to save at least \$200 million annually off the government's \$400-million yearly phone

bill when it is fully in place. Austin said savings should surpass \$2 billion over the 10-year contract.

"We will exceed the \$2-billion mark by a considerable distance," Austin predicted.

Austin, in an interview later, said that as government use of FTS2000 increases and volume discounts kick in, "we could see upwards of \$1 billion a year in hard-cash savings when the system is fully operational."

Austin said the network, which actually began operation Friday, when the first of 31 government sites were tied into FTS2000, already had carried 150,000 telephone calls.

He said 17 "minor" problems had been reported out of the 150,000 calls — 10 numbers were reached incorrectly and there were seven pre-programmed dialing errors.

The 10-year, fixed-price contract, which GSA awarded last December following a lengthy contract-letting process and challenges by failed bidders, could be worth as much as \$25 billion to the two prime contractors, the American Telephone and Telegraph Co. and US Sprint Communications.

AT and T has 60 per cent of the network; Sprint 40 per cent.

Richard J. Lombardi, AT and T vice president for federal system, said the contract was a "model" for government procurement.

FTS2000 will serve nearly 1.3 million federal employees and is expected to handle more than 300,000 calls annually.

The network utilizes digital and fiber-optic technology for integrated voice, data and video services, including voice and high-speed data transmission, electronic mail, high-speed facsimile transmission and full-motion video conferencing.

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Revenue	594.67	1065.89
Gross Profits	124.15	161.73
Depreciation	7.04	0.80
Profit before tax	79.95	75.29
Profit after tax	68.95	75.29
Provision for tax	11.00	Nil

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## France brush aside Scotland

# Spain, England go through



England's Peter Beardsley (left) keeps the ball away from a Polish player. (Reuter wirephoto)



Hungary's Lajos Detari (right) tackles a Spanish player. (Reuter wirephoto)

LONDON, Oct 13, (Reuter): England and Spain clinched their places in next year's World Cup soccer finals on Wednesday night as seven players were sent off in 10 potentially decisive but ultimately disappointing European qualifying ties.

England, winners of the World Cup in 1966 but now better known for the violent hooligan behaviour of a minority of their supporters, held out for a 0-0 draw in their Group Two clash in Poland to ensure their place in Italy.

Spain, runaway leaders in Group Six, were held to a 2-2 draw after leading 2-0 in Hungary and their failure to win left Ireland, as much as their own supporters, frustrated in their hour of celebration.

The Irish, who beat Northern Ireland 3-0 in Dublin, would have qualified for the finals if Spain had won in Budapest instead of surrendering their advantage.

As a result, instead of the anticipated possible maximum of six nations adding their names to the six already on Italy's invitation list, only two succeeded as neither did so in style.

The Netherlands, 2-1 winners of a Group Four visit to Wales, moved within comfortable reach of the finals and did so in impressive style, but there was little else to savour on a night of surprises, frustration and violence.

Four players were sent off in Varna where Bulgaria thrashed Greece 4-0 — three Greeks and one Bulgarian were shown red cards — and two were dismissed in Sarajevo as Yugoslavia, already assured of a place in Italy, beat Norway with only 10 men.

The seventh dismissal came in Paris where France, down to 10 men for more than half an hour after left back Eric de Meo was sent off, unexpectedly beat Scotland 3-0.

England owed their success in Chorzow to goalkeeper Peter Shilton, who defied his 40 years by producing a string of memorable saves to preserve their record of remaining unbeaten without conceding a

goal in the qualifying tournament.

Spain, with goals from Julio Salinas and Michel, seemed assured of victory in Hungary, but were left fighting for their survival after defender Attila Pinter struck in each half to level the scores.

Pinter's successes persuaded Ireland manager Jack Charlton to decline the celebration champagne on offer in Dublin after goals by Ronnie Whelan, Tony Cascarino and Ray Houghton had secured their Group Six win over Northern Ireland.

Two of the biggest surprises came in Paris and Copenhagen where France, showing signs of a revival under Michel Platini, outplayed Scotland to win 3-0 in Group Five and Denmark trounced Romania by the same score in their Group One clash.

Denmark, showing the sort of free-scoring form which made them so popular in the 1986 finals in Mexico, swept Romania

aside with goals from Kent Nielsen, Brian Laudrup and Flemming Povlsen. The decisive match will be the return meeting between the two in Bucharest next month.

The Netherlands, like the Danes, will be popular finalists if they maintain the free flowing soccer they showed in Wrexham where headers from Graeme Ritjes and Johnny Bosman earned victory for a team lacking the presence of Ruud Gullit.

The Dutchmen now need only to beat Finland to secure a place in Italy.

They are likely to be joined there by Belgium who need only a point from their last tie after drawing in Switzerland, thanks to a late own goal by the Swiss libero Alan Geiger.

Portugal, 3-0 winners over Luxembourg, are unlikely to join as qualifiers from Group Seven as they remain third in the section and face a decisive showdown when they meet Czechoslovakia on November 16.



Zoltan Bogner of Hungary heads the ball as he tackles Magnolo of Spain. (Reuter wirephoto)



Polish riot police and English soccer fans clash during England's 0-0 draw with Poland. (Reuter wirephoto)

## Italy meet Brazil for first time since 1982

BOLOGNA, Italy, Oct 13, (Reuter): World Cup hosts Italy meet three times world champions Brazil tomorrow for the first time since 1982 in a soccer friendly billed by both sides as a clash of the giants.

Stronger on tactics but with the same flair for improvisation, the new-look Brazil side under manager Sebastiao Lazaroni came to Bologna with a place in Italy in 1990 already booked and eager to avenge their second round defeat in Spain in 1982 as Italy marched to their own third World Cup title.

"We've learnt that in football you have to win first and then you can be entertaining," Brazilian striker Careca said.

Despite this seven-year match gap, the Brazilians are no strangers to the Italian squad. Careca and Alemão play for UEFA Cup winners Napoli, who contribute five men to the Italian squad, Dunga plays for Fiorentina and Geovani joined First Division Bologna this season.

Their knowledge of the individual strengths and weaknesses of their Italian opponents will go some way towards compensating for the fact that the Brazilian players, scattered throughout Europe, will manage only one light training session together before tomorrow's game.

The match is Italy's second in a series of eight international World Cup warm-up friendlies and manager Azeglio Vicini has no doubt it will prove the toughest.

"Individually the Brazilians have always been excellent. But now they have come up with a tactical superiority that is absolutely unpredictable," he said. Italy got off to a sparkling start last month, crushing Bulgaria 4-0 and discovering a new hero in Fiorentina midfielder Roberto Baggio who contributed two first-half goals in only his fourth appearance for the national side.

Vicini has made only one change to the squad that beat Bulgaria, recalling Internazionale Milan stalwart Nicola Bertè after a period of injury to strengthen the midfield.

Baggio, hailed by the press as Italy's answer to Argentine World Cup captain Diego Maradona, will again form the attack with Andrea Carnevale and star striker Gianluca Vialli. Baggio is likely to be marked by his regular midfield League partner Dunga — a turnabout relished by neither man — while Italian keeper Walter Zenga of Inter says he fears the dangerous head of old adversary Careca in the area.

Brazil had to leave behind injured star Bebeto and PSV Eindhoven have declined to release Romario for the friendly. Several other players under contract to French and Portuguese clubs will also miss the match.

"These are two teams with a great tradition and a great will to win...the Brazil of today would not lose a match like the one against Italy in Spain in 1982," Dunga said.

## Can outpoints Pinna to keep European title

CEFALU, Sicily, Oct 13, (Reuter): Eyup Can of Denmark retained his European flyweight title yesterday on a close points decision after a dramatic final round against Italian challenger Giampiero Pinna.

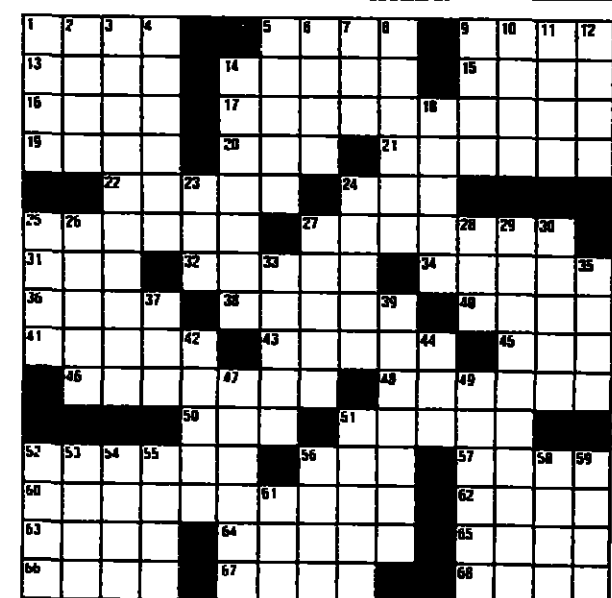
The 2-1 points verdict came after Can and Pinna traded punches in the closing seconds with the Italian's face a mask of blood.

Both fighters, aware of how closely-matched they were on points, threw a furious hail of punches at each other and the Spanish referee interrupted the fight halfway through the round when Can reopened a cut above Pinna's left eye.

Although the fight doctor allowed Pinna to continue after a brief examination, the Italian fought in the final 20 seconds of the match with his face covered in blood.

When the final bell went, Pinna turned a somersault of joy, convinced he had done enough. But the verdict went the other way, the 117-115 120-114 116-117 decision in Can's favour showing how narrow his victory had been.

### TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Scope
  - Concern
  - Concern
  - Louis XV
  - and XV
  - Milk Comb
  - Murrow's
  - are —
  - Against
  - Adjective for champagne
  - Whirlybird
  - Multi-axle
  - fruit
  - Dutch commune
  - Ceolches
  - Inventor Howe
  - Container
  - Lease sign
  - Idea
  - Final
  - Mister, in Barcelona
  - Like some seals
  - Faction
  - Describing Norse poetry
  - Overindulge in a way
  - Speeds
  - West Texas river
  - Wine
  - Inclined
  - Armadas
  - Penca
  - Brilliance
  - One of the Gandhis
  - Actor Wallach
  - Former Asian kingdom
  - Season (r SE France)
  - Madras garb
  - Amo, amas
  - Depart
  - Solar disk
- DOWN**
- Strawberry and others
  - Rational
  - For fear that
  - Ecclesiastical vestments
  - Uncommon
  - Worldwide in extent
  - King of the Huns
  - Outbuildings
  - Distant
  - Comb form
  - Silkworm
  - Jelly ingredient
  - Engrossed
  - Streetwise
  - Roman road
  - Knights
  - Part of ETC
  - Part of a pound
  - Office holders
  - acid
  - Examination
  - Dueling swords
  - Like a red spruce
  - Consume
  - Plains Indian s
  - Nigerian natives
  - Family rooms
  - Musical syllable
  - To the point
  - Trap
  - Gat of song
  - Santi Fe and Chisholm
  - Feudal tenant
  - Student in St. Lo
  - Muslim leader
  - Appellation
  - Mid expletive
  - Right and left endings
  - Valve
  - God of war
  - Julep
  - enhancement
  - Meadow
- ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:**
- SALEM ERAT ADAM  
OLEIC MUSH LIT  
STARR INEE MEDIE  
SION ALTE BROITAN  
ONIE'S SAILS  
PARKER THE STILES  
AVERY KIRANIK IDIA  
NITIA HEEDY HIAUL  
ALIA HALLIVE TIRCE  
MAGNUMPT MISSEIS  
ITSY CAMS  
ARREST DOER SGT  
MOIL ELAM ESTER  
ETAL RITE JINANE  
NOLLO SPIAT DYNIES

### GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF  
DEAD OF A BROKEN HEART

Both vulnerable. North deals.  
**NORTH**  
♠ Q 10 8  
♥ A J 8 5 3  
♦ A K J  
♣ K Q

**WEST**  
♠ 7 6 3  
♥ 6  
♦ 10 5 3 2  
♣ J 10 9 8 5

confirmed that his jump shift was, in part, based on a spade fit, South trotted out Blackwood (and settled for six spades when he learned that an ace was missing).

We hope our question didn't talk you into trying one of the red-suit finesses for your slam. After East wins the ace of clubs and returns the suit, declarer can claim his slam as long as hearts are no worse than 4-1.

On the second club declarer should discard a heart from hand, then draw the outstanding trumps — three rounds in this case. Next comes the king of hearts and, when both defenders follow, it is all over but the shouting.

Declarer crosses to the ace of hearts, ruffs a heart, gets back to the table with the king of diamonds and ruffs another heart. That sets up the 13th heart, and the ace of diamonds is still in dummy as an entry so that declarer can discard his diamond loser.

What if there is a 5-0 heart division? Most unlucky, but all is not yet lost. Declarer can still try the diamond finesse for his fulfilling trick.

**EAST**  
♠ 5  
♥ Q 10 9 2  
♦ Q 8 4  
♣ A 7 6 3 2

**SOUTH**  
♠ A K J 9 4 2  
♥ K 7 4  
♦ 9 7 6  
♣ 4

The bidding:

North East South West  
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass  
3 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass  
3 ♠ Pass 4 NT Pass  
5 ♠ Pass 6 ♠ Pass

Opening lead: Jack of ♣  
Playing at six spades after a club lead, should you take a heart or a diamond finesse for your contract? Answer this question before reading on.

North-South conducted an orderly auction to arrive at an excellent small slam. Once North

confirmed that his jump shift was, in part, based on a spade fit, South trotted out Blackwood (and settled for six spades when he learned that an ace was missing).

We hope our question didn't talk you into trying one of the red-suit finesses for your slam. After East wins the ace of clubs and returns the suit, declarer can claim his slam as long as hearts are no worse than 4-1.

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### THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C. By Johnny Hart



A SAD NEWSFLASH FROM THE ZOO

YOUR STARS

**Aries (March 20 - April 18)**

If you do not want to offend, you will have to exercise a certain amount of restraint. You should not allow yourself to be thrown off balance by some small disturbance. Show a little more respect towards your elders. Do not be magnanimous.

**Taurus (April 19 - May 19)**

Do not be deceived by appearances. You are more liable to make mistakes, so be on the lookout for them. Do not think you have all the time in the world — you have not. Be less docile.

**Gemini (May 20 - June 20)**

You will be able to make a few changes for the better. You should not be amiss in not expressing your gratitude. Do not try to save by cutting back on essential repairs. Be scrupulous.

**Cancer (June 21 - July 21)**

Others may not agree with a proposal that you consider to be eminently reasonable. You will find it difficult to keep your mind on the task you have set yourself. Persevere and once it is accomplished relax. Be temperate.

**Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)**

Do not allow others to dissuade you from doing something that you know has got to be done. You will have to be a little more flexible if you wish to deal with an unusual obstacle.

**Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)**

Something that a friend says will give you a clue to solving a persistent problem. Avoid living in the past but do not ignore it altogether. Make sure your partner is aware of your love and affection. Be sincere.

**Libra (Sept 22 - Oct 22)**

Take just a little more exercise, but nothing too violent or strenuous. Your lucky numbers are 2 and 35. Make sure you do not eat just out of habit and irrespective of your weight. Consider carefully the consequences of your actions. Be moderate.

**Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)**

You should look on the positive side but without ignoring the negative aspects. Do not allow your attention to wander when dealing with a delicate matter. You should not be slow in showing your gratitude for a favour a friend has done you. Be consistent.

**Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)**

You would be wrong to take things too seriously but do not think that everything is just a big joke. You should avoid doing anything that is contrary to your principles. Eat more foods that are rich in vitamins and minerals.

**Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)**

You should have just a little more faith in yourself. And you would also do well to trust others instead of being jealous or suspicious of them. Do not believe all you hear and do not allow yourself to be guided by guesswork. Be fair.

**Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)**

You will be able to set your children a good example and should do so. You should trust your judgment and you should avoid doing anything you are not sure about. Do not expect others to put your interests before theirs. Be objective.

**Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)**

You should not be in too great a hurry but neither should you dither or dally. An offer or proposal should be considered most carefully. Things are liable to be more complicated than appearances would seem to indicate.



# US-Soviet drugs agreement attracts interest

MOSCOW, Oct. 13, (Reuters): The bilateral drug testing agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union is set to become multi-national.

Czechoslovakia, Italy, West Germany and Bulgaria want to join the initiative signed by the Americans and the Soviets last November, US Olympic Committee general secretary Baaron

Pettinger said yesterday.

He said several other nations, including representatives from Asia, had also expressed an interest in joining the initiative and had asked to be invited to talks on the possible expansion of the agreement.

"We met with representatives of a number of nations who are interested in taking the bilateral

agreement and making it a multi-national one,"

Pettinger said.

"There will be a meeting some time before the end of the year to pursue that possibility."

The original agreement, which has not yet swung into full effect, was intended to allow Soviet and American officials to dope-test each other's athletes.

Reciprocal testing had been due to begin in August but Pettinger said yesterday that it would not now start until some time next year.

He said he could not be more specific but conceded by the time it did come into effect, the agreement might no longer be the prerogative of the Soviet Union and the United States.

"That's a real possibility," he said.

## United look to improve position

LONDON, Oct. 13, (Reuters): Bryan Robson, buoyant after leading England into the 1990 World Cup finals, must adjust his sights tomorrow in a bid to steer Manchester United from the lower reaches of the English First Division.

United, on the third lowest rung of the ladder, played at home to bottom club Sheffield Wednesday and anything less than a win will be deemed a failure for Alex Ferguson's multi-million-dollar side.

Such is the England captain's influence that United, despite an array of expensive talent, flounders without him. They crashed 5-1 at local rivals Manchester City in their last League match two weeks ago when Robson was out through injury.

United also need an emphatic victory to shake off the effects of the Michael Knighton takeover saga that put the club in the headlines almost daily for reasons other than football.

Tomorrow's match marks a return to Old Trafford for former United manager Ron Atkinson, dismissed in November 1986 after failing to win the League title in a six-year reign and now in charge of Sheffield Wednesday.

But Atkinson, who acquired the image of a champagne-sipping, cigar-smoking big spender, can point to a better record at United than his successor has achieved so far.

Under his guidance, United won the Football Association (FA) Cup twice and never finished outside the top four in five League campaigns.

Atkinson spent around £7 million (\$10.8 million) on players. Bryan Robson was his biggest buy at £1.5 million (\$2.3 million) and he has probably proved to be United's best player since the head days of George Best, Bobby Charlton and Denis Law.

Ferguson has spent around £12 million (\$18.6 million) in three years, in which United have finished second once and 11th twice in the League and gone no further than the quarterfinals of the FA Cup.

Atkinson is sure to get a warm reception from the Stretford End who still look back on his side with affection. "I'm looking forward to going back," he said.

But the visit could turn sour unless Sheffield Wednesday show better form. They are looking for only their second win of the League campaign in which they have scored a paltry two goals in eight matches and conceded 16.

United's defence has an equally poor record, conceding 15 goals in seven outings, and goalkeeper Jim Leighton's confidence cannot have been boosted by the three goals France put past him in Scotland's 3-0 defeat in Paris on Wednesday.

But United will be basing their bid to climb up the table on a far superior attack, which has scored 13 goals, five coming from Mark Hughes of Wales.

In contrast, leaders Liverpool have the enviable record of 19 goals for and just three against and should remain unbeaten when they visit lowly Wimbledon.

A side in which non-internationals are the exception, Liverpool had two players, Peter Beardsley and Steve McMahon, on duty alongside Robson in Poland on Wednesday and three helping Ireland in Dublin move within sight of their first ever World Cup finals. Two of them, Ronnie Whelan and Ray Houghton, scored in the 3-0 win over Northern Ireland.

Chelsea, second to Liverpool on goal difference, visit fourth placed Norwich, the only other unbeaten side, while champions Arsenal, who are third, receive Manchester City.

## Turkey bars foreigners

ISTANBUL, Oct. 13, (Reuters): Turkey's Football Federation said yesterday it had decided to bar foreign players from Turkish clubs.

"The decision has been taken for the good of Turkish soccer and its players. We cannot back down from the decision, which we believe is right and just," a federation spokesman said.

The 46 foreigners playing in Turkey will be allowed to see out the current season, he said.

They include West German goalkeeper Toni Schumacher, who joined the First division club Fenerbahce in 1988, and Belgian goalkeeper Jean-Marie Pfaff, with Trabzonspor.

The federation's decision followed a dismal start to Turkey's new soccer season, with leading clubs losing first round ties in European competitions.

# Lendl routs Hogstedt

## Wahlgren stuns Zivojinovic



Lendl: easy win

SYDNEY, Australia, Oct. 13, (AP): Ivan Lendl, the world's top-ranked player, blasted his way past the last hurdle challenge of unseeded Swede Thomas Hogstedt today to advance to the semifinals of the \$492,500 Australian indoor tennis championship.

Lendl, who is seeking his third win in the event, outplayed Hogstedt 6-2, 6-2 to maintain his record of not having dropped a set.

He now faces in-form Swede Niklas Kroon in tomorrow's second semifinal of the 32-draw Nabisco Grand Prix tournament.

Kroon staged a remarkable recovery, and saved three match points, on his way to a 0-6, 7-5, 7-6 (8-6) win over Australian left-hander Mark Woodforde.

It was a repeat of his win over Woodforde in the final of last

week's Queensland Open tournament in Brisbane.

The other semifinal tomorrow will feature unseeded Swede Lars Wahlgren against his roommate for the past week, Australian teenager Johan Anderson.

Wahlgren, who was considering quitting tennis because he wasn't making any money, stunned defending champion Slobodan Zivojinovic of Yugoslavia 6-3, 7-6 (7-2) to advance to the semis.

Anderson, 18, beat fellow Australian Jason Stoltenberg 6-3, 6-3.

Wahlgren, ranked just 222nd in the world, reached the last four of a Grand Prix tournament for the first time. He was only ever made it past the first round twice before.

Wahlgren, a powerful but patient baseliner, hit a succession of fine passing shots to out fifth

seeded Zivojinovic in a tight one-hour, 25-minute struggle.

Zivojinovic, angered by the loss, smashed two rackets at the conclusion of the contest and was fined \$500 by Grand Prix supervisor Bill Gilmour.

Lendl said he would need to be cautious against Kroon, who showed great grit in his long struggle with Woodforde.

"He has been playing well and winning close matches," Lendl said. "I'll need to play well."

Lendl has played exceptionally well in his three matches to date, dropping a total of only 12 games.

Kroon looked dejected after winning only six points in the first set against Woodforde and trailing 4-2 in the second, but fought back magnificently.

"I'm very confident these days and I'm winning the tight matches," Kroon said.

# Athletics tipped to defeat Giants

OAKLAND, Calif., Oct. 13, (Reuters): Not since New York City ruled the baseball world in the 1950s have urban neighbours fought in the World Series.

Now, 33 years after the last celebrated 'subway series,' the battlefield moves to the West Coast where the Oakland Athletics and San Francisco Giants will open their 'Series by the Bay,' tomorrow.

The best-of-seven series starts in Oakland with the American League champion Oakland A's listed by oddsmakers as 11-5 favourites.

During New York's baseball heyday the Yankees dominated the American League, with the Giants, who moved to San Francisco in 1958, and Brooklyn Dodgers usually fighting for National League honours.

A golden trio of centrefielders — Willie Mays of the Giants, Mickey

Mantle of the Yanks and Duke Snider of the Dodgers — brought glitter to the championship confrontations and fuelled bitter arguments over who was best.

Tomorrow, Will Clark and Kevin Mitchell, the Giants' most feared one-two punch since the New York exploits of Mantle and Roger Maris, will try to work their magic in San Francisco.

Clark comes from a sensational League championship series in which he batted a mind-boggling .650. During the regular season, he hit a more human, but still impressive, .333 average and drove in 111 runs.

Mitchell smashed 47 homers and drove in 125 runs to lead the Majors. Rickey Henderson, the spectacular speedy and powerful Oakland lead-off man, and big-hitters Jose Canseco and Mark McGwire

hope to pace their side, whose ballpark lies only 10 miles (16 km) across San Francisco Bay from the Giants' Candlestick Park.

The rivalry between the bay area teams, playing each other in post-season for the first time, has not yet inspired the hot-blooded factionalism that marked New York baseball in the '50s. But the talent is there to produce a spirited series that could jostle the Californians' more mellow demeanour.

The Oakland A's, last year's series favourites who lost to the Los Angeles Dodgers in five games, are stronger this time.

To bolster the starting pitching, Oakland signed free agent Mike Moore. The former Seattle Mariner exceeded expectations, winning 19 games with a run average of 2.61 that helped them lead the League in that

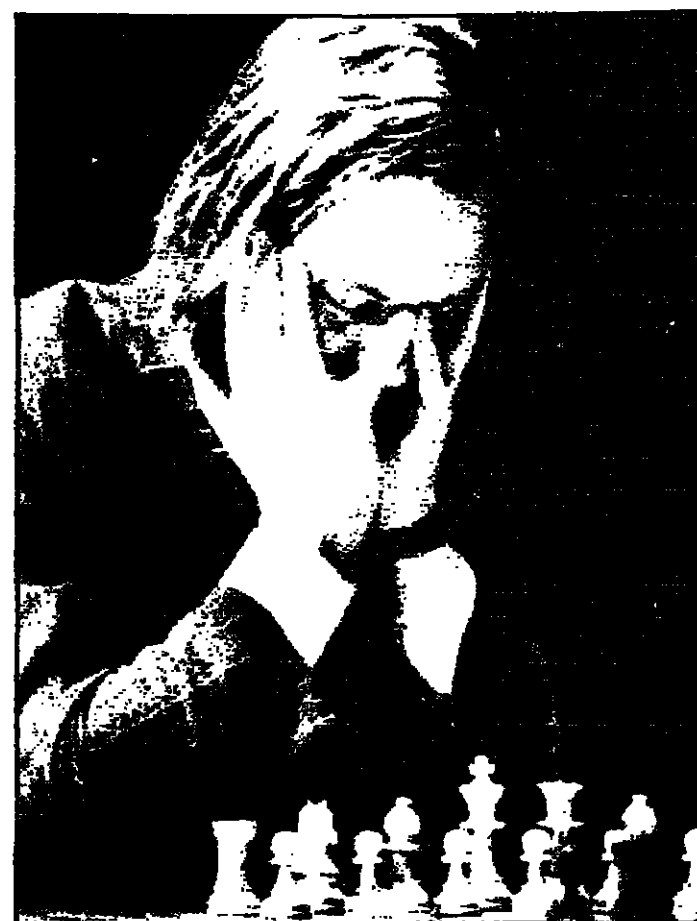
category.

Saddled with the early season loss of Canseco due to a hand injury, the A's made a mid-season coup in negotiating the return of Henderson by sending two relievers and a spare outfielder to the Yankees.

Henderson, who holds the record for most stolen bases in a season and most career lead-off homers, was traded by the A's before the 1985 season becoming a free agent.

Buoyed by a return to his home town, Henderson dominated the American League championship series by hitting .400, belting two home runs and stealing a post-season record eight bases.

Both teams won their League championships in five games.



Yusupov gets his concentration level up before the start of the game. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Yusupov shares lead

LONDON, Oct. 13, (Reuters): A stunning win by Soviet grandmaster Artur Yusupov over the former world champion Anatoly Karpov equalised the score in the sixth game of their World Chess Championship semifinal yesterday.

Yusupov's first victory over Karpov contained an element of surprise as it emerged from a position that seemed to favour the former Soviet world champion.

Yusupov, playing with the white pieces, opened with a torri attack and gained a definite edge after Karpov's dubious 4th move. He maintained pressure but dissipated his advantage with his 20th move, leaving Karpov with the initiative.

During the next moves, the game lapsed into a quiet, solid position. But with a fantastic positional sacrifice on his 30th move, Yusupov pinned all the Karpov pieces and threatened to invade with his own.

With Karpov having to find 11 accurate moves in less than four minutes, his position collapsed under white's 37th move and he resigned.

In other semifinal, British grandmaster John Speelman called a timeout in his match against grandmaster Jan Timman of the Netherlands. They have two of their scheduled eight games left to play and will resume tomorrow with Timman leading 3.5 to 2.5.

Speelman was expected to use the free days to sharpen his opening preparation and go all out for the victory he needs in the last two games.

The winner of the candidates' cycle will challenge world champion Garry Kasparov for his title in a 24-game match starting October 1990. The winning semifinalists will face off in the candidates' final next March.

If either contest ends in a 4-4 tie, two further games will be played followed, if necessary, by sudden death tie breakers played at increasingly high speeds.

## Biasion wins rally and title

SAN REMO, Italy, Oct. 13, (Reuters): Italy's Massimo Biasion, driving a Lancia, squeaked past team mate Alessandro Fiorio to win the San Remo Rally and his second consecutive world title yesterday.

The 31-year-old Lancia works driver pushed his new 16-valve Delta Integrale on its race debut — to make up the half second per kilometre he needed in yesterday's fourth and final overnight stage.

Biasion, who also won last year at San Remo, ended the rally with a total time of six hours 48 minutes and 30 seconds, only five seconds ahead of Fiorio, who drove an eight-valve Lancia Delta.

The Italian, who won 15 of the rally's 33 special stages, became world champion with two events left in the 13-rally season — the Ivory Coast and the British.

The rally was another strong performance for the Lancias, which took three of the top four places. Last season they swept the pack with all four top places.

Spanish Toyota driver Carlos Sainz, overall leader since Tuesday, came in third at 25 seconds behind Fiorio. Italian Dario Cerrato, in a Lancia Delta, was fourth overall.

Cerrato was lucky to clinch fourth place. On Monday his front and rear differentials broke and he was then stopped by police for 20 minutes during a motorway transfer from Liguria to Tuscany.

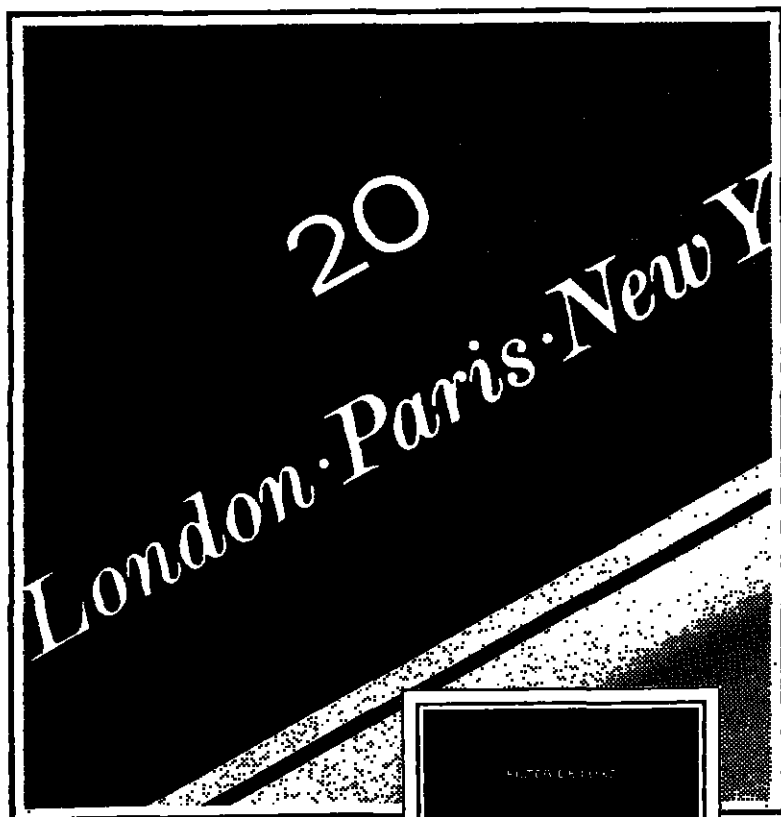
Finn Juha Kankkunen, the 1987 world champion who returns to Lancia next year after a season with Toyota, dropped to fifth overall.

After puncturing a tyre on Monday and skidding on Tuesday, Biasion's strategy this year became a repeat of last season's inching up on the leader to overtake him in the final stage of the race.

Fiorio, son of Ferrari team manager Cesare Fiorio, who was joint second in the championship going into the race, moved into outright second place. San Remo would have been his first victory of the season.

The final stage, comprising nine special stages on asphalt, started at midnight in San Remo.

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## SPORTS

# Accident overshadows world gymnastics

STUTTGART, West Germany, Oct. 13. (Reuters): Worried gymnastics officials today launched an inquiry into a serious accident which has overshadowed the start of the world championships.

Puerto Rican gymnast Adriana Duffy fractured a vertebra at the base of her neck when she fell on her head from the vaulting horse in training yesterday. Doctors said it

was too early to say if she would be paralysed.

"We have called for a report into the circumstances of the accident," said International Gymnastics Federation (FIG) medical commission chairman Michel Leglise.

Duffy, 18, had an emergency operation in a Stuttgart hospital, orthopaedic surgeon

Klaus Steinbrueck said. "It is difficult to give a prognosis," he added. "I cannot say if she will walk again."

Officials at the world championships, which get under way tomorrow, said Duffy's hands had slipped as she somersaulted over the vault horse and she crashed to the ground.

The Puerto Rican delegation, which

includes Duffy's mother Edda who is a masseuse with the women's team, was still deciding whether to compete as planned or pull out of the championships.

Leglise, who was visiting Duffy in hospital later today, said the FIG was happy with the emergency care the teenager had received at Stuttgart's Hans-Martin-Schleyer arena.

## Sri Lanka, England in Nehru Cup opener

NEW DELHI, Oct. 13. (Reuters): England and Sri Lanka, the oldest and newest Test-playing nations, and currently the weakest, open a cricket tournament in India on Sunday designed to honour a leader, build political bridges and follow up the success of the World Cup two years ago.

The first match in New Delhi between Graham Gooch's reshaped England side and the Sri Lankans marks the start of the six-team one-day competition held in honour of the birth 100 years ago of the nation's first prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru.

Hosts India, Pakistan, West Indies and Australia, who won the 1987 World Cup when it was staged on the sub-continent for the first time, complete the Nehru Cup line-up from which only New Zealand of the Test cricket nations is missing.

West Indies and Australia were initially reluctant to take part but were persuaded by changed dates, financial guarantees and discreet diplomatic pressure.

England's invitation represents partly a chance of the 1988-89 tour, called off when the Indian government said it would refuse to issue visas to Gooch and seven other members of the touring party with South African links.

England, who have been badly beaten in their last two Test series by West Indies and Australia, arrived at the weekend and started their Nehru Cup campaign with practice matches against an Indian Railways XI and Indian Airways.

They did very well in their first outing, rediscovering the talents of 33-year-old Wayne Langer, who scored a century after eight years of being ignored by the England selectors.

Sri Lanka, the underdogs of major cricket, arrived soon afterwards, captain Arjuna Ranatunga saying his squad lacked practice because of recent storms and denied international competition because no-one wanted to tour their strife-torn country.

Realistically, Sri Lanka are not expected to reach the semifinal stages after the round-robin section of the tournament. On recent results, England could be the other team to fall by the wayside.

West Indies, as always, will be strongly fancied with their seemingly endless supply of fast bowlers and exciting, although sometimes fallible, batting.



Srikanth: India's new captain



Gooch (right): leading England

On their own sub-continent, India and neighbours Pakistan are bound to challenge strongly while Australia should not be underestimated. Their somewhat surprise World Cup triumph heralded their re-emergence as a major cricket force, culminating in this year's 4-0 trashing of England to regain the Ashes.

But the one-day game is very different to Test cricket, as the last World Cup showed when outsiders England and Australia fought out the final.

Despite their dismal Test record, England have excelled at the one-day version but, with a much-changed squad caused by defections to the rebel party set to tour South Africa early next year, they are very much an unknown quantity.

India also came near to making large scale changes after six of their leading players were banned for taking part in an unofficial tour. They were later reinstated under threat of Supreme Court action, although Dilip Vengsarkar lost the captaincy to Krishnamachari Srikkanth.

With the experience of the World Cup behind them, even the bookmakers of Bombay have had difficulty in deciding on a tournament favourite.

As Sri Lanka's Ranatunga said: "You need luck in one-day matches."

## SPORTS BRIEFS

## Soviet yachtsman

MONTEVIDEO, Oct. 13. (Reuters): The body of a Soviet yachtsman taking part in the Whitbread round-the-world race was found hanging from a tree in the Uruguayan resort of Punta del Este on Wednesday, police said. Alexei Gryshenko, joint skipper of the Soviet Union's first yacht to compete in the race, was reported missing on Tuesday night. Police said they had no more information.

## Ban halved

GENEVA, Oct. 13. (Reuters): The European Football Union (UEFA) appeals board today halved to one season a ban on Dutch club Ajax Amsterdam taking part in its competitions.

## Practice match

NEW DELHI, Oct. 13. (Reuters): Two teenagers made England toil in the sun in their final practice match today prior to the start of the Nehru Cup cricket tournament on Sunday. Although England beat an Air India team comfortably by 113 runs, Ajay Jadhava (84) and Vinod Kamble (77) showed precocious talent as they slammed 161 runs in 32 overs.

## 50 winners

WINCANTON, England, Oct. 13. (Reuters): British champion jump jockey Peter Scudamore broke his own record for the fastest 50 winners in a season with 12 days to spare yesterday. He was successful on In-Keeping, the 11-10 favourite in the third race at this west of England track.

## Trainer banned

LONDON, Oct. 13. (Reuters): Race-horse trainer Chris Wiltett, who served a three-month jail sentence earlier this year for his part in a betting coup, has been banned from racing for 20 years by the British Jockey Club.

## Mochida beaten

BELGRADE, Oct. 13. (Reuters): Japanese judo, still trying to recover from a poor Olympics, took another knock on the third day of the world championships when one of their great hopes for a title, a Tatsuo Mochida, was beaten by South Korea's Byung-Ju Kim in the final by decision.

## Overall lead

HOUSTON, Oct. 13. (Reuters): Oliver Stewart and Rene Schwall of West Germany yesterday posted their second successive fourth place finish to grab the overall lead at the World Tornado Class Yachting Championships after two races.

## Winning blows

LONDON, Oct. 13. (AP): A British boxer was allowed yesterday to keep a knockout victory on his record, even though his mother landed the winning blows with her high-heeled shoe. The British Boxing Board of Control said it had no choice but to award the victory to Tony Wilson over Steve McCarthy, the fastest-weight bout last month despite "the unsatisfactory nature of the ending of this contest."

## Waters cleared

SYDNEY, Australia, Oct. 13. (AP): Australian heavyweight boxing champion Dean Waters was cleared yesterday of murdering his father's wife's lover. Cec Waters, the boxer's father and trainer, also was declared innocent in the slaying.

## 1992 Olympics

ATHENS, Greece, Oct. 13. (AP): Greek composer Mikis Theodorakis has accepted an offer by the International Olympic Committee president to coach the team for the 1992 Olympic Games to be held in Barcelona.

## Marathon race

NEW YORK, Oct. 13. (AP): Belaine Demissie of Ethiopia and Ingrid Kristiansen of Norway, the fastest men's and women's marathoners in history, head a powerful group of eight entries announced Wednesday for the Nov 5 New York City marathon.

## Browns fullback

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Oct. 13. (AP): Cleveland Browns fullback Kevin Mack was taken to the state prison system's central medical centre in Ohio yesterday for an examination of his surgically repaired left knee, a prison spokeswoman said. Mack has been in the Ohio state reformatory in Mansfield since Oct. 5.

## Fisa president

NEUCHÂTEL, Switzerland, Oct. 13. (Reuters): Swiss Denis Oswald will take over immediately as president of the International Rowing Federation (Fisa) following the death of compatriot Thomas Keller.

## Wild card

LONDON, Oct. 13. (Reuters): Tennis veteran Jimmy Connors has been given a wild card entry for the London indoor tournament at Wembley next month, the organisers said yesterday.

## Coach dies

MOSCOW, Oct. 13. (AP): Paul Wilkins, 54-year-old coach of American tennis player Betsy Nagelsen, collapsed and died Tuesday just before the start of Nagelsen's scheduled opening match at a \$100,000 Virginia Slims women's tennis tournament, officials said.

## W. Indies crush India

### Richards rolls back the years

SHARJAH, United Arab Emirates, Oct. 13. (Reuters): Viv Richards gave a sparkling demonstration of his renewed appetite for cricket with a telling all-round performance as West Indies beat India by five wickets in the opening Sharjah Cup match today.

Richards brilliantly ran out two batsmen, took two wickets with his gentle off-spin and helped his side recover from 31 for three with a quick-fire 34.

The West Indian captain, who recently said his keenness for the game had been rekindled after a five-month break to help overcome a nagging haemorrhoid problem, was named Man of the Match.

His team, seeking to retain the trophy, dismissed India for a modest 169 in 48.1 overs and completed victory at 173 for five with 13 deliveries to spare.

Richards apart, the other architects of West Indies' success were fast bowler Courtney Walsh, who captured four for 25, and Gus Logie (59 not out) and Keith Arthurton (48), who shared a fifth wicket stand of 85. Walsh started India's slide.



Viv Richards

while Richards ran out Dilip Vengsarkar and Mohammed Azharuddin, both for 14, and also took the equally important wickets of Mohinder Amarnath and all-rounder Ravi Shastri during his 10-over spell.

The West Indian innings plun-

ged into difficulties as Desmond Haynes, Phil Simmons and Richie Richardson each went cheaply playing extravagant strokes.

Richards' response was to carry the attack to the bowlers, striking 18 in pace bowler Manoj Prabhakar's eighth over, including three fours and a six. The Antiguan put on 49 with Keith Arthurton before he was caught off the persevering off-spinner Arshad Ayub going for an ambitious square cut.

West Indies were then 80 for four, but India's plans for an upset victory were thwarted by Arthurton and Logie, who played beautifully and hit six fours.

The start of the tournament was postponed yesterday due to the death of the United Arab Emirates Deputy Prime Minister Sheikh Hamdan Bin Mohammed Al Nahayan.

The three-team event, which continues with Pakistan playing West Indies tomorrow, ends on October 20.

## Scoreboard

INDIA K. Srikkanth c Dejon b Walsh ..... 11

N. Sidhu c and b Walsh ..... 28  
M. Amarnath b Richards ..... 20  
D. Vengsarkar run out ..... 14  
M. Azharuddin run out ..... 14  
R. Shastri c Richards b Richards ..... 15  
Kapil Dev c Dejon b Walsh ..... 16  
A. Sharma b Ambrose ..... 17  
M. Prabhakar c Dejon b Walsh ..... 17  
K. More b Ambrose ..... 17  
A. Ayub not out ..... 7  
Extras (b-1 lb-9 w-10) ..... 20  
Total (48.1 overs) ..... 169  
Fall of wickets: 1-43.2-46.3-72.4-91.5-97.6-106.7-126.8-126.9-146.10-166.11-173.12-173.13-173.14-173.15-173.16-173.17-173.18-173.19-173.20-173.21-173.22-173.23-173.24-173.25-173.26-173.27-173.28-173.29-173.30-173.31-173.32-173.33-173.34-173.35-173.36-173.37-173.38-173.39-173.40-173.41-173.42-173.43-173.44-173.45-173.46-173.47-173.48-173.49-173.50-173.51-173.52-173.53-173.54-173.55-173.56-173.57-173.58-173.59-173.60-173.61-173.62-173.63-173.64-173.65-173.66-173.67-173.68-173.69-173.70-173.71-173.72-173.73-173.74-173.75-173.76-173.77-173.78-173.79-173.80-173.81-173.82-173.83-173.84-173.85-173.86-173.87-173.88-173.89-173.90-173.91-173.92-173.93-173.94-173.95-173.96-173.97-173.98-173.99-174.00-174.01-174.02-174.03-174.04-174.05-174.06-174.07-174.08-174.09-174.10-174.11-174.12-174.13-174.14-174.15-174.16-174.17-174.18-174.19-174.20-174.21-174.22-174.23-174.24-174.25-174.26-174.27-174.28-174.29-174.30-174.31-174.32-174.33-174.34-174.35-174.36-174.37-174.38-174.39-174.40-174.41-174.42-174.43-174.44-174.45-174.46-174.47-174.48-174.49-174.50-174.51-174.52-174.53-174.54-174.55-174.56-174.57-174.58-174.59-174.60-174.61-174.62-174.63-174.64-174.65-174.66-174.67-174.68-174.69-174.70-174.71-174.72-174.73-174.74-174.75-174.76-174.77-174.78-174.79-174.80-174.81-174.82-174.83-174.84-174.85-174.86-174.87-174.88-174.89-174.90-174.91-174.92-174.93-174.94-174.95-174.96-174.97-174.98-174.99-175.00-175.01-175.02-175.03-175.04-175.05-175.06-175.07-175.08-175.09-175.10-175.11-175.12-175.13-175.14-175.15-175.16-175.17-175.18-175.19-175.20-175.21-175.22-175.23-175.24-175.25-175.26-175.27-175.28-175.29-175.30-175.31-175.32-175.33-175.34-175.35-175.36-175.37-175.38-175.39-175.40-175.41-175.42-175.43-175.44-175.45-175.46-175.47-175.48-175.49-175.50-175.51-175.52-175.53-175.54-175.55-175.56-175.57-175.58-175.59-175.60-175.61-175.62-175.63-175.64-175.65-175.66-175.67-175.68-175.69-175.70-175.71-175.72-175.73-175.74-175.75-175.76-175.77-175.78-175.79-175.80-175.81-175.82-175.83-175.84-175.85-175.86-175.87-175.88-175.89-175.90-175.91-175.92-175.93-175.94-175.95-175.96-175.97-175.98-175.99-176.00-176.01-176.02-176.03-176.04-176.05-176.06-176.07-176.08-176.09-176.10-176.11-176.12-176.13-176.14-176.15-176.16-176.17-176.18-176.19-176.20-176.21-176.22-176.23-176.24-176.25-176.26-176.27-176.28-176.29-176.30-176.31-176.32-176.33-176.34-176.35-176.36-176.37-176.38-176.39-176.40-176.41-176.42-176.43-176.44-176.45-176.46-176.47-176.48-176.49-176.50-176.51-176.52-176.53-176.54-176.55-176.56-176.57-176.58-176.59-176.60-176.61-176.62-176.63-176.64-176.65-176.66-176.67-176.68-176.69-176.70-176.71-176.72-176.73-176.74-176.75-176.76-176.77-176.78-176.79-176.80-176.81-176.82-176.83-176.84-176.85-176.86-176.87-176.88-176.89-176.90-176.91-176.92-176.93-176.94-176.95-176.96-176.97-176.98-176.99-177.00-177.01-177.02-177.03-177.04-177.05-177.06-177.07-177.08-177.09-177.10-177.11-177.12-177.13-177.14-177.15-177.16-177.17-177.18-177.19-177.20-177.21-177.22-177.23-177.24-177.25-177.26-177.27-177.28-177.29-177.30-177.31-177.32-177.33-177.34-177.35-177.36-177.37-177.38-177.39-177.40-177.41-177.42-177.43-177.44-177.45-177.46-177.47-177.48-177.49-177.50-177.51-177.52-177.53-177.54-177.55-177.56-177.57-177.58-177.59-177.60-177.61-177.62-177.63-177.64-177.65-177.66-177.67-177.68-177.69-177.70-177.71-177.72-177.73-177.74-177.75-177.76-177.77-177.78-177.79-177.80-177.81-177.82-177.83-177.84-177.85-177.86-177.87-177.88-177.89-177.90-177.91-177.92-177.93-177.94-177.95-177.96-177.97-177.98-177.99-178.00-178.01-178.02-178.03-178.04-178.05-178.06-178.07-178.08-178.09-178.10-178.11-178.12-178.13-178.14-178.15-178.16-178.17-178.18-178.19-178.20-178.21-178.22-178.23-178.24-178.25-178.26-178.27-178.28-178.29-178.30-178.31-178.32-178.33-178.34-178.35-178.36-178.37-178.38-178.39-178.40-178.41-178.42-178.43-178.44-178.45-178.46-178.47-178.48-178.49-178.50-178.51-178.52-178.53-178.54-178.55-178.56-178.57-178.58-178.59-178.60-178.61-178.62-178.63-178.64-178.65-178.66-178.67-178.68-178.69-178.70-178.71-178.72-178.73-178.74-178.75-178.76-178.77-178.78-178.79-178.80-178.81-178.82-178.83-178.84-178.85-178.86-178.87-178.88-178.89-178.90-178.91-178.92-178.93-178.94-178.95-178.96-178.97-178.98-178.99-179.00-179.01-179.02-179.03-179.04-179.05-179.06-179.07-179.08-179.09-179.10-179.11-179.12-179.13-179.14-179.15-179.16-179.17-179.18-179.19-179.20-179.21-179.22-179.23-179.24-179.25-179.26-179.27-179.28-179.29-179.30-179.31-179.32-179.33-179.34-179.35-179.36-179.37-179.38-179.39-179.40-179.41-179.42-179.43-179.44-179.45-179.46-179.47-179.48-179.49-179.50-179.51-179.52-179.53-179.54-179.55-179.56-179.57-179.58-179.59-179.60-179.61-179.62-179.63-179.64-179.65-179.66-179.67-179.68-179.69-179.70-179.71-179.72-179.73-179.74-179.75-179.76-179.77-179.78-179.79-179.80-179.81-179.82-179.83-179.84-179.85-179.86-179.87-179.88-179.89-179.90-179.91-179.92-179.93-179.94-179.95-179.96-179.97-179.98-179.99-180.00-180.01-180.02-180.03-180.04-180.05-180.06-180.07-180.08-180.09-180.10-180.11-180.12-180.13-180.14-180.15-180.16-180.17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